



NEWS

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John Kerry, Democrats, and the EU Impose Tariffs on the US Economy

Kerry and the Democrats place special interests over American companies and workers.

WASHINGTON — Today the Senate Democrats voted in near unison to ensure American companies are faced with stiff tariffs from the European Union, thus resulting in fewer jobs and less income growth for working Americans. The Foreign Sales Corporations (FSCs) and the extraterritorial income exclusion (ETI) export subsidies were found to be in violation of World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements. Without changes, the United States is facing \$4 billion of sanctions imposed by the European Union and the tariffs went into effect March 1st. The legislation put forward by Sen. Grassley sought to change the tax code to bring the US into compliance with the WTO which removes the tariffs.

“Sen. Kerry and his Democratic Party sent a real signal to American voters today on their priorities for the American economy,” said taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR). **“For all the talk about jobs and the economy, here was a real chance for the Democrats to stand up for American entrepreneurs and workers and once again they have turned their back. The tariffs will remain in place making American products less competitive. They have absolutely no credibility talking about investing in America from here on in.”**

The Senate vote resulted in nine votes short of the needed 60 votes to invoke cloture. Democrats are refusing to vote for the measure without being able to vote for amendments completely unrelated to the provisions needed to bring the U.S. tax code in compliance with the WTO ruling. In fact, Democrats are keeping in place tariffs on American companies to appease their special interests. Sen. Kerry was noticeably absent from the vote.

“I find it quite ironic that the mantra from the Kerry campaign has been jobs yet he is always absent when it comes time to help American workers and businesses,” continued Norquist. **“His absence today should be a real wake up call to the voters that the talk coming from the Kerry camp is nothing but empty rhetoric. If Kerry is serious about increasing investment in America he should stand up to the special interests in his party and tell them to stop obstructing on this important legislation.”**

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal and state tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact Jonathan Collegio at (202) 785-0266 or by email at jcollegio@atr.org.

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