

# Businesses warn Trump of consequences of new Mexican tariffs

By JILL COLVIN and COLLEEN LONG  
Associated Press



AP Photo/Christian Torres

Trucks wait to cross the border with the U.S. in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

WASHINGTON — Despite pushback from U.S. business, Mexico and Capitol Hill, President Donald Trump doubled down Friday on his threat to slap a 5% tariff on Mexican imports unless America's southern neighbor cracks down on Central American migrants trying to cross the U.S. border.

U.S. manufacturers said the tariff, set to take effect June 10, would have devastating consequences on them and American consumers. U.S. stocks tumbled on Wall Street in response to Trump's planned action.

"Imposing tariffs on goods from Mexico is exactly the wrong move," said Neil Bradley, executive vice president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which is exploring legal action in response to the tariffs. "These tariffs will be paid by American families and businesses without doing a thing to solve the very real problems at the border. Instead, Congress and the president need to work together to address the serious problems at the border."

Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador dispatched his foreign secretary to Washington to try to negotiate a solution. He said social problems are not solved with coercive measures, but also seemed convinced that Trump just needed to be informed about all the steps Mexico has taken to slow illegal migration.

Mexico has stepped up raids on migrant caravans traveling through the southern states of Chiapas and Oaxaca this year. It has deported thousands of

migrants and frustrated thousands more who wait endlessly for permits that would allow them to travel legally through Mexico.

Administration officials told reporters Thursday evening that Mexico could prevent the tariffs from kicking in by securing its southern border with Guatemala, cracking down on criminal smuggling organizations, and entering into a "safe third country agreement" that would make it difficult for those who enter Mexico from other countries to claim asylum in the U.S.

"We fully believe they have the ability to stop people coming in from their southern border and if they're able to do that, these tariffs will either not go into place or will be removed

after they go into place," said acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney.

Trump said the percentage will gradually increase — up to 25% — until the migration problem is remedied.

"Mexico has taken advantage of the United States for decades," Trump said in a tweet. "Because of the Dems, our Immigration Laws are BAD. Mexico makes a FORTUNE from the U.S., have for decades, they can easily fix this problem. Time for them to finally do what must be done!"

Trump's decision showed the administration going to new lengths, and looking for new levers, to pressure Mexico to take action — even if those risk undoing other policy priorities, like the United States-Mexico-Canada

Agreement, a trade deal that is the cornerstone of Trump's legislative agenda and seen as beneficial to his reelection effort.

Keeping the economy rolling also is critical to Trump's reelection, and business was not happy with the president's planned tariff on Mexican imports.

"These proposed tariffs would have devastating consequences on manufacturers in America and on American consumers," said Jay Timmons, chief executive officer of the National Association of Manufacturers. "We have taken our concerns to the highest levels of the administration and strongly urge them to consider carefully the impact of this action on working families across this country."

The stock market's tumble on Friday all but guarantees that May will be the first monthly loss for the market in 2019. The news hit automakers particularly hard. Many of them import vehicles into the U.S. from Mexico.

"The auto sector — and the 10 million jobs it supports — relies upon the North American supply chain and cross border commerce to remain globally competitive," said the Auto Alliance, which represents automakers that built 70% of all cars and light trucks sold in U.S. "Any barrier to the flow of commerce across the U.S.-Mexico border will have a cascading effect — harming U.S. consumers, threatening American jobs and investment and curtailing

economic progress."

Some of Trump's fellow Republicans in Congress opposed the tariff. Republican senators have made almost weekly treks to the White House to nudge the president off his trade wars, and this latest move sent them scrambling again to signal their displeasure in hopes of reversing Trump's actions.

Texas Republican Sen. John Cornyn supports the president's commitment to securing the border, an aide said, but he opposes the across-the-board tariff, "which will disproportionately hurt Texas."

Key trade senators also spoke up. Pennsylvania GOP Sen. Pat Toomey, who has questioned the administration's ability to invoke national security threats for some other imports, called the tariffs a "blanket tax increase" on items American purchases from Mexico and "the wrong remedy."

The tariff threat comes at a peculiar time, given how hard the administration has been pushing for passage of the USMCA, which would update the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, a usual Trump ally and the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, slammed the president's action, saying it was a "misuse of presidential tariff authority" that would burden American consumers and "seriously jeopardize passage of USMCA."

Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, said the livelihoods of farmers and producers from her state are at risk and so is the USMCA.

"If the president goes through with this, I'm afraid progress to get this trade agreement across the finish line will be stifled," she said.

## Senators seek to help with rural timber losses

By KEITH RIDLER  
Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — U.S. senators from Idaho and Oregon on Thursday touted legislation they introduced to create an endowment to replace revenue lost by rural counties due to declines in timber cutting on federal lands.

Republicans Jim Risch and Mike Crapo of Idaho and Democrat Ron Wyden of Oregon gathered at the Idaho Statehouse to talk about the Forest Management for Rural Stability Act introduced last week.

The senators say the legislation would create an endowment to give at least \$300 million annually to rural counties in 40 states for schools, roads, law enforcement and other essential services.

Rural counties, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, have suffered economically as commercial timber cutting on federal land fell to about a fourth of what it was in the late 1980s. Many

states in the U.S. West contain large amounts of federal land. Rural communities receive a share of the money from timber harvest on that land.

But federal land is not subject to property taxes by counties. So when timber harvest declined, rural counties not only lost timber revenue, but they couldn't make that up with property taxes.

"The federal government owes these counties an obligation to solve that fiscal problem," Crapo told about 150 people that included officials from both states.

"Simply put, long-term quality of life in rural America requires a new long-term roadmap," Wyden said. "That is what we are laying out here today."

The legislation calls for Congress to charter a non-profit corporation to manage the endowment fund independent from the U.S. government. Money generated from interest and investments from the endowment would finance payments to

counties.

The endowment fund would be created with a one-time appropriation by Congress of \$7 billion. More money would be added with timber harvest on federal lands, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service money generated from timber sales and grazing leases at National Wildlife Refuges, and money from Bureau of Land Management lands in Oregon and California.

Ultimately, the senators said, the fund would increase and pay out more than \$300 million annually.

The plan includes an emergency clause that requires any shortfall to the counties to be made up from the U.S. Treasury. The senators said all bills include an emergency fund, and their calculations in the legislation aimed to avoid shortfalls.

"An emergency or not, this is a moral obligation to the United States of America," Risch said. "Forget the emergency, this has got to be paid."

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### SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
63 52	63 51	62 50	61 50	61 50	60 49	61 49
Partial sunshine	Partial sunshine	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Cloudy	Showers possible	More clouds than sun

### ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday

**Temperatures**

High/low ..... 59/53  
Normal high/low ..... 62/48  
Record high ..... 79 in 1924  
Record low ..... 38 in 1943

**Precipitation**

Thursday ..... Trace  
Month to date ..... 1.66"  
Normal month to date ..... 3.22"  
Year to date ..... 22.01"  
Normal year to date ..... 33.26"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2019

### UNDER THE SKY

**Tonight's Sky:** Before sunrise, the Summer Triangle is nearly overhead.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

### SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today ..... 5:28 a.m.  
Sunset tonight ..... 8:59 p.m.  
Moonrise today ..... 4:47 a.m.  
Moonset today ..... 7:12 p.m.

	New	First	Full	Last
June 3	June 9	June 17	June 25	

### TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
12:05 a.m.	8.1	7:04 a.m.	-0.1	
1:13 p.m.	6.6	6:46 p.m.	2.3	
<b>Cape Disappointment</b>				
12:47 p.m.	6.2	6:13 a.m.	-0.3	
none		5:57 p.m.	2.2	
<b>Hammond</b>				
1:00 p.m.	6.8	6:35 a.m.	-0.2	
none		6:19 p.m.	2.3	
<b>Warrenton</b>				
12:00 a.m.	8.6	6:48 a.m.	0.0	
1:08 p.m.	7.0	6:30 p.m.	2.4	
<b>Knappa</b>				
12:42 a.m.	8.4	8:05 a.m.	-0.1	
1:50 p.m.	6.9	7:47 p.m.	2.0	
<b>Depoe Bay</b>				
12:05 p.m.	6.4	5:44 a.m.	-0.4	
11:28 p.m.	8.4	5:24 p.m.	2.3	

### NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	87/68/s	89/69/s
Boston	70/57/s	68/56/pc
Chicago	72/52/t	67/47/s
Dallas	89/72/pc	89/74/pc
Denver	74/51/pc	75/52/t
Honolulu	89/75/pc	89/74/pc
Houston	93/74/pc	93/74/pc
Los Angeles	70/57/pc	70/58/pc
Miami	92/79/pc	92/79/t
New York City	79/62/s	77/56/t
Phoenix	99/72/s	98/71/s
San Francisco	71/55/s	69/55/s
Wash., DC	86/69/s	83/59/t

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

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### REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Seattle	76/56		Wenatchee	90/61	
Tacoma	77/52		Moses Lake	93/58	
Aberdeen	65/51		Yakima	91/58	
Olympia	77/50		Kennewick	95/61	
Longview	75/53		Walla Walla	88/64	
Astoria	63/52		Lewiston	88/60	
Portland	80/56		Enterprise	77/51	
Salem	80/53		Hermiston	94/63	
Corvallis	81/52		Pendleton	87/60	
Eugene	79/52		La Grande	80/53	
Bend	81/51		John Day	80/53	
Medford	87/58		Burns	78/50	
Klamath Falls	78/48		Ontario	86/58	
			Caldwell	83/56	

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	81/49/pc	83/51/t	North Bend	64/52/pc	62/50/pc
Brookings	70/54/s	66/53/pc	Roseburg	84/58/s	84/52/pc
Ilwaco	62/53/pc	61/52/pc	Seaside	63/51/pc	63/51/pc
Newberg	79/51/s	80/47/pc	Springfield	80/52/s	81/47/pc
Newport	61/49/pc	60/49/pc	Vancouver	78/53/s	79/50/pc