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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **HOME FASHION PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING POSSIBLE BORDER TAXES AND TARIFFS**

**NEW YORK (March 15, 2017)** – The Home Fashion Products Association (HFPA), the leading association for the global home fashion industry, today argued against increased tariffs and taxes on imported goods in a statement it issued detailing the implications that such measures would have on the industry. The statement was sent to President Donald Trump, Committee on Ways and Means members, Senate Committee on Finance members, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Commerce. The association’s proactive response on possible new legislation will serve the textile and home fashion industry by focusing on the impact to consumers and employment. Such legislation would negatively impact the industry by increased costs to companies to obtain imported goods, employment rates by job cuts as a cost savings measure and the end consumer by increased costs of final goods to recoup losses.

The Trump administration has proposed trade taxes and tariffs including the Border Adjustment Tax, which could have a drastic impact on the home fashions industry and consumers. In fact, Americans for Affordable Products (AAP) estimates that the proposed border taxes on goods including clothing and food could cost the average consumer as much as \$1,700 per year.

“As HFPA is the leading organization in the home fashion industry, we felt it was essential that we proactively issue a statement detailing the severe impact that proposed taxes and tariffs would have not only on our members and the industry but also on consumers,” said Jeff Kaufman, president and chief operating officer of Avanti Linens and president, HFPA.

Additionally, HFPA members will be engaging their local congressional representatives to educate him or her on the repercussions that this proposed legislation would have when it comes to U.S. employment rates. While many home fashions products or its components are made abroad, industry players have significant domestic operations including warehousing, design, marketing and accounting. Companies representing the home fashions industry in the United States employ anywhere from a few dozen up to several hundred individuals.

For more information about HFPA, visit [www.homefashionproducts.com](http://www.homefashionproducts.com).

### **About HFPA®**

The Home Fashion Products Association (HFPA®) serves to advance the growth of the global home fashion industry by setting standards for excellence through technical product compliance, advocacy and awareness efforts. Since 1968, HFPA has been a leading association providing members information, advice and action on regulations governing U.S. trade policies, and on key state and federal legislative issues. HFPA establishes uniform market dates and promotes best practice for high product standards in its industry. Members include companies that manufacture, market or supply for window, bedding, bath, table linens, kitchen textiles, floor and wall coverings, allied products, accessories and services. The HFPA Foundation supports students of home fashion surface design and marketing, and has awarded multiple annual scholarships since 1996. For further information, please contact HFPA headquarters on (212) 297-2122.

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