



AMERICAN TEXTILE  
MANUFACTURERS INSTITUTE

June 6, 2002

**Statement on Behalf of the American Textile Manufacturers Institute Regarding H.R. 4157**

The American Textile Manufacturers Institute (ATMI) would like to register its views regarding H.R. 4157. ATMI is the national trade association for the domestic textile industry, which employs approximately 435,000 workers nationwide.

ATMI opposes congressional passage of H.R. 4157, a bill to modify the definition of certain hand-woven wool fabrics. If this bill were to pass, there would be no assurances, such as written certification from the government of the exporting country, that the fabrics in question would actually be hand-woven. Further, the United States Customs Service would be unable to verify whether such fabrics are, in fact, hand-woven.

Thus, foreign wool textile manufacturers and importers could gain the benefits of duty-free entry for fabrics that are not hand-woven, which would directly compete with fabrics made by U.S. wool textile manufacturers. Therefore, we urge that this legislation not be enacted.

If you have any questions, please call Charles Bremer, ATMI's Vice President of International Trade, at (202) 862-0500.

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