



AMERICAN TEXTILE  
MANUFACTURERS INSTITUTE

June 6, 2002

**Statement on Behalf of the American Textile Manufacturers Institute Regarding H.R. 4219**

The American Textile Manufacturers Institute (ATMI) would like to register its views regarding H.R. 4219. ATMI is the national trade association for the domestic textile industry, which employs approximately 435,000 workers nationwide.

ATMI supports congressional passage of H.R. 4219, which would temporarily suspend the duty on certain textile machinery used by U.S. textile manufacturers. The machines in question are shuttleless power looms with less than 4.9 meters weaving width. These looms are absolutely essential to producers of woven fabric, who collectively comprise the largest segment of the American textile industry. They are the backbone of the weaving sector. Many of our member companies utilize such machinery and would benefit from this legislation.

We would like to point out a minor typographical error in the description of these looms printed in the second column. The word immediately following "drop wires" should be "heddles," not "needles." We would urge that this be corrected to avoid any confusion.

We have previously confirmed with the American Textile Machinery Association that there is no domestic production of this machinery and they have no objections to this proposal. In fact, we are not aware of any opposition to reducing this duty.

Similar legislation was enacted in the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress but has recently expired. Passage of this bill would free up needed capital for U.S. textile manufacturers at a time when our industry is struggling to recover from its worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Accordingly, ATMI urges enactment of this measure.

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

Carlos Moore  
President  
American Textile Manufacturers Institute



1130 Connecticut Ave., NW • Suite 1200 • Washington, DC 20036-3954  
202-862-0500 • fax: 202-862-0570 • <http://www.atmi.org>  
fax on demand: 202-862-0572

