



AMERICAN TEXTILE  
MANUFACTURERS INSTITUTE

June 6, 2002

**Statement on Behalf of the American Textile Manufacturers Institute Regarding H.R. 4220**

The American Textile Manufacturers Institute (ATMI) would like to register its views regarding H.R. 4220. 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. 4220, which would temporarily suspend the duties collected on certain textile machinery used by domestic textile manufacturers. The machines in question are ink-jet textile printing machines. These machines, which are extremely costly, are used to print patterns, designs and motifs on fabrics and are thus indispensable to a large segment of the domestic textile industry.

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 suspending this duty. The current revenues generated by this duty are less than \$500,000, thus meeting the standard criteria for duty suspension.

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.

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