

MILANO HAT CO., INC.

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

TO: U. S. Department of Commerce FAX NO.: 10794

Committee of Ways and Means

202/482-0667

FROM: Richard Milano

RE: Bill 4583

DATE: June 3, 2002

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To Whom It May Concern:

We have just received notification of House Bill 4583 that is under consideration.

Let me first give you some background on our company. Milano Hat Company is a headwear manufacturer located in Dallas, Texas. We manufacture both straw and felt western headwear. We import raw bodies to manufacture both products.

Since we are a domestic manufacturer, we feel this bill would be unfair and create an unlevel playing field for companies that have no production facility here in the United States and only import finished goods from overseas.

We would support any tariff reduction bill that would include raw material, which I believe is classified under Tariff Heading 6502. We feel the way this bill is worded would not be in the best interest of the headwear industry in the United States.

Richard Milano President

cc: Maria D' Andrea