

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 110th Congress¹**

[Date approved: July 22, 2008]²

Bill No. and sponsor: H.R. 5553 (Mr. Darrell Issa of California).

Proponent name,³ location: Outdoor Industry Association, Boulder, CO.

Other bills on product (110th Congress only): H.R. 5399.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2011.

Retroactive effect: None.

Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):

Travel bags of man-made fibers, with outer surface of textile materials, such bags having wheels, a telescoping handle and stowable shoulder straps, the foregoing valued over \$30 each and not exceeding 80 liters in interior volume (provided for in subheading 4202.12.80).

Check one: ___ Same as that in bill as introduced.
 x Different from that in bill as introduced (see Technical comments section).

Product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports:

The subject merchandise is travel luggage made of woven fabrics of man-made fibers, with a customs value of over \$30 each, with wheels and a telescoping handle but without a removable separate backpack or daypack attached by zipper or other means and without any such means of attaching a separate backpack or daypack. The subject product is designed primarily for common carrier transportation as baggage, and is wheeled or carried by means of the attached wheels or concealed shoulder straps. The bulk of the subject product is imported from China, followed by Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Italy, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. Dutiable U.S. imports under this subheading (a broader category than is covered by this bill) totaled \$592.5 million in 2007, of which China accounted for \$529.4 million in shipments.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Don Sussman (202-205-3331); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

² Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/index.htm.

³ The sponsor/proponent identified 10 additional beneficiaries of this bill. USITC staff sent inquiries to the additional beneficiaries and received responses from six. Five submitted written representations that they would benefit from this bill.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: <u>4202.12.80</u>					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Col. 1-General rate of duty	17.6%	17.6%	17.6%	17.6%	17.6%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$1,321,000	\$1,453,600	\$1,599,000	\$1,758,900	\$1,934,700
Customs revenue loss	\$232,496	\$255,833	\$281,424	\$309,566	\$340,507

Source: Industry estimates.

Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
		(Yes/No)		
Outdoor Industry Association (Proponent) Alex Boian, 303-327-3509	06/04/2008	No	No	No
Eagle Creek Keith Jenkins, 202-248-5090	05/23/2008	No	No	No
London Bridge Trading Company Doug McDougal, 757-498-0207	05/23/2008	No	No	No
Luggage Works Charles Ferguson, 417-678-7684	06/02/2008	No	Yes	No
Travel Goods Association Nate Herman, 703-797-9062	05/22/2008	No	No	No
VF Outdoor, Inc. Patrick Fox, 714-889-6133	06/05/2008	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁴

The article description should be amended as shown on page 1, to be more consistent with the permanent tariff category's description and normal tariff drafting practices.

⁴ The Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only the U.S. Customs Service is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that the U.S. Customs Service should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5553

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain travel bags.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2008

Mr. ISSA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain travel bags.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CERTAIN TRAVEL BAGS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
5 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
6 amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
7 new heading:

“	9902.01.00	Travel bags of manmade fibers, with wheels, a telescoping handle, and stowable shoulder straps, valued over \$30, not to exceed 4,900 cubic inches (80 liters) in volume (provided for in subheading 4202.12.80)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2011	”.
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1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from
3 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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