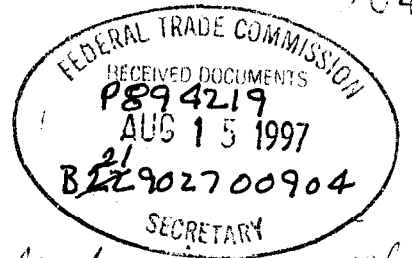


July 7, 1997

204



29 The Honorable Robert Pitofsky,
30

31 As a long term manufacturing employee
32 of New Balance, I am writing of my
33 support for the proposed change of the current
34 100% content guidelines. Our facility is located
35 in Skowhegan, a small rural community
36 in Central Maine. Through Total Quality
37 Management programs, our goal to create
38 a quality product is being achieved on a
39 daily basis. However, 100% U.S.A. content is
40 a goal almost impossible to achieve as
41 some materials used in our manufacturing
42 process are unavailable from vendors in the
43 United States. I believe the proposed
44 change to 75% content would be more realistic
45 from a manufacturing aspect. Please allow
46 manufacturers around the United States to
47 continue producing quality products in their
48 own communities and be proud of their
49 ability to do so.
50

51 Thank you,
52 Sandra Newby
53
54
55
56