



NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

W

LINDA METZGER  
CLERK OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RECEIVED

AUG 1 1997

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

July 24, 1997

Mr. Robert Pitofsky  
Chairman  
Federal Trade Commission  
150 William Street  
New York, NY 10038

AUG 5

Dear Mr. Pitofsky:

The New Jersey General Assembly has adopted Assembly Resolution No. 163 which urges the Federal Trade Commission to maintain current standard behind the "Made in USA" label.

In accordance with the directions contained therein, I am forwarding a copy to you.

Sincerely,

Linda Metzger  
Clerk of the General Assembly

Enclosure

LM/plh

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 163

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 22, 1997

By Assemblymen TALARICO, CHATZIDAKIS, Bodine, Asselta, Gibson, Assemblywoman Heck, Assemblymen Wolfe, Arnone, Augustine, DiGaetano, Assemblywoman Wright, Assemblymen Bateman, DeSopo, Kelly, Moran, Cottrell, Bucco, Bagger, LeFevre, Assemblywoman Crecco, Assemblymen Malone, Blee, Assemblywomen Vandervalk, Myers, Farragher, Allen, Assemblyman Azzolina and Assemblywoman J. Smith

1 AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION urging the Federal Trade Commission to  
2 maintain the current standard behind the "Made in USA" label in  
3 order to protect consumers and jobs in the United States.

4  
5 WHEREAS, for the past several decades, the "Made in USA" label has  
6 defined a product as having all or virtually all of its parts and labor  
7 originating in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, The people of the United States depend upon the integrity  
9 of this label when purchasing products; and

10 WHEREAS, The label projects a sense of pride for American  
11 workmanship and value; and

12 WHEREAS, The Federal Trade Commission has promulgated  
13 regulations to lower this standard to allow substantial amounts of  
14 a product to be of foreign origin; and

15 WHEREAS, Lowering this standard will be a misrepresentation to  
16 consumers in the United States who presently believe products  
17 bearing the "Made in USA" label were all or virtually all made in  
18 the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, consumers in the United States are entitled to purchase  
20 products with the understanding that the labels on these products  
21 reflect consistent definitions; and

22 WHEREAS, The Federal Trade Commission is responsible for  
23 safeguarding the consumer from unfair, deceptive, and fraudulent  
24 practices; now, therefore,

25  
26 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New  
27 Jersey

28  
29 1. The General Assembly of the State of New Jersey respectfully  
30 urges the Federal Trade Commission to uphold the current content  
31 standards for the "Made in USA" label, to ensure that the label



1 continues to signify that a product was all or virtually all made in the  
2 United States, and to protect consumers and jobs in this State.

3

4 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the  
5 Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk, shall be  
6 transmitted to the President of the United States, the Presiding  
7 Officers of both Houses of the United States Congress, the Members  
8 thereof from the State of New Jersey, and to Robert Pitofsky, the  
9 Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.

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12 STATEMENT

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14 This resolution urges the Federal Trade Commission to refrain from  
15 lowering the current content standards for the "Made in the USA"  
16 label. Recently, the commission promulgated regulations to lower  
17 this standard to allow substantial amounts of a product that bears the  
18 "Made in USA" label to be of foreign origin. Lowering this standard  
19 will amount to a misrepresentation to consumers who presently believe  
20 that products bearing the "Made in the USA" label were entirely or  
21 largely made in this country, and could also lead to the loss of jobs in  
22 the United States.

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28 Urges the Federal Trade Commission to maintain current standard  
behind the "Made in USA" label,