

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

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

[Date approved: March 27, 2008]²

Bill No. and sponsor: H.R. 4477 (Mr. Joe Courtney of Connecticut).

Proponent name,³ location: Warren Corporation, Stafford Springs, CT.

Other bills on product (110th Congress only): None.

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

Retroactive effect: None.

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

Yarn of carded cashmere of 19.35 metric yarn count or higher (provided for in subheading 5108.10.80).

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

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

This bill covers yarns made wholly of carded cashmere and those of carded cashmere blends in which the cashmere predominates by weight over any other single textile fiber. The yarns are of 19.35 metric count or higher,⁴ which is considered very fine. Such yarns are typically used to make woven fabrics for use in men's and women's jackets. Because such yarns are costly, they are generally used only for custom tailored garments.

The subject yarns are produced from fibers processed into yarn on the woolen system as opposed to the worsted spinning system. In general, fibers that are merely carded are spun into woolen yarns, and those that undergo both carding and combing are spun into worsted yarns. Carding serves to disentangle the fibers to prepare them for spinning and is done by passing the fibers between rollers covered in fine teeth. This step produces cashmere in the form of a loose, untwisted rope-like sliver, ready for spinning into carded yarn.

The subject yarns are provided for in HTS subheading 5108.10.80, which covers yarns of carded fine animal hair, other than Angora rabbit hair and mohair. In 2007, U.S. imports under HTS subheading 5108.10.80 totaled \$2.0 million (21,000 kilograms). Italy was the primary supplier of such yarns, followed by China and the United Kingdom.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Heidi Colby-Oizumi (202-205-3391); Tariff Affairs contact: Dan Shepherdson (202-205-2598).

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

³ The sponsor/proponent did not identify any additional beneficiaries of this bill.

⁴ Metric yarn count refers to the number of kilometers per kilogram of yarn. The higher the metric count, the finer the yarn.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: 5108.10.80					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Col. 1-General rate of duty (AVE)	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Customs revenue loss 1/	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

1/ There is an existing duty suspension under HTS heading 9902.03.02 that expires on December 31, 2009. Therefore, there will be no customs revenue loss related to this bill in 2009.

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Commission 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?
Warren Corporation (Proponent) Lisa Cornish, 860-684-2766 (ext. 113)	2/22/2008	No	Yes	No
American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition Sara Ormand, 202-452-0866	2/28/2008	No	Yes	No
Hanora Spinning Gerald Beyer, Fax: 401-765-6991	2/26/2008	No	No	No
Jagger Brothers David Jagger, 207-324-5622	2/26/2008	No	No	No
Kent Manufacturing Mark Kent, 864-878-6367 (ext. 2525)	2/26/2008	No	No	No
National Council of Textile Organizations David Trumbull, 202-822-8026	2/26/2008	No	No	No
National Textile Association David Trumbull, 617-542-8220	2/26/2008	No	Yes	No
Tailored Clothing Association David Starr, dastarr@wms-jen.com	2/26/2008	No	No	No
Victor Woollen Products, Ltd. Terry Winkler	2/26/2008	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁵

It is suggested that the article description of existing HTS heading 9902.03.02 be amended to use the word “higher” instead of “finer,” so that it is clear that the metric yarn count number should be a number equal to or greater than 19.35.

⁵ 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
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4477

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on yarn of carded cashmere of 19.35 metric yarn count or finer.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 12, 2007

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

A BILL

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on yarn of carded cashmere of 19.35 metric yarn count or finer.

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. YARN OF CARDED CASHMERE OF 19.35 METRIC**

4 **YARN COUNT OR FINER.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Heading 9902.03.02 of the Har-
6 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended
7 by striking “12/31/2009” and inserting “12/31/2011”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
9 subsection (a) applies with respect to goods entered, or

- 1 withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after
- 2 the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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