

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 110th Congress**¹

[Date approved: July 1, 2008]²

Bill No. and sponsor: H.R. 5147 (Mr. Jim McDermott, Washington).

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

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

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

Retroactive effect: None.

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

Gaiters of textile materials (provided for in subheading 6406.99.15)

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:

The bill covers textile coverings used as protective clothing for a person's ankles and lower legs and worn when walking, hiking, running, fishing, or riding in dense underbrush or on snow, with or without snowshoes or skis. The subject gaiters cover the leg from the knee to the top of the footwear and are used with footwear made for mountaineering, ski touring, hiking, and other outdoor sports. Gaiters strap onto the boot or shoe and around a person's leg to provide protection from branches and thorns and to prevent mud, snow, and the like from entering the top of the boot. Gaiters for walking are commonly made of plasticized synthetic cloth, such as polyester or nylon. The dutiable value of all U.S. imports entering under HTS subheading 6406.99.15 totaled about \$9.9 million in 2007, of which the subject goods comprised an estimated \$1.3 million. China and Sri Lanka were the leading suppliers of these imports.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Laura Rodriguez (202-205-3499); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

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 proponent identified 10 additional beneficiaries of this bill. USITC staff sent inquiries to the named beneficiaries and received responses from 7. Six companies submitted written representations that they would benefit from the bill.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: 6406.99.15					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Col. 1-General rate of duty (AVE)	14.9%	14.9%	14.9%	14.9%	14.9%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$1,450,238	\$1,522,750	\$1,600,890	\$1,680,935	\$1,765,980
Customs revenue loss	\$216,085	\$226,890	\$238,533	\$250,459	\$263,131

Source of estimated dutiable import data: 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, Government Affairs Associate (303-444-3353)	4/15/08	No	No	No
American Apparel and Footwear Association Nate Herman, Director of International Trade (703-797-9062)	4/11/08	No	No	No
Black Diamond Equipment, Ltd. Lauri Hawkins, Director of Planning, Purchasing, and Logistics (801-278-5552)	4/23/08	No	No	No
Cloudveil Kelly Milazza, Operations Manager (307-734-3880)	4/23/08	No	No	No
Crescent Moon Snowshoes Tamara Laug (303-494-5506)	4/23/08	No	No	No
Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America Peter Mangione, President (202-737-5660)	4/11/08	No	No	No
Mountain Hardwear Daniel Ramos, Product Manager (510-558-3000)	4/23/08	No	No	No
Outdoor Research Clark Campbell, VP Designs (206-467-8197)	4/24/08	No	No	No
Recreational Equipment, Inc. Lee Fromson, VP Gear and Apparel (253-437-7407)	4/23/08	No	No	No

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
			(Yes/No)	
Rubber and Plastic Footwear Manufacturers Association Mitchell Cooper, Counsel (202-331-1848)	4/11/08	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁴

None.

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. 5147

To suspend temporarily the duty on gaiters of textile materials.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 28, 2008

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

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on gaiters of textile
materials.

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. GAITERS OF TEXTILE MATERIALS.**

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	Gaiters of textile materials (provided for in subheading 6406.99.15)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2011	”.
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8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
9 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

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

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