

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 109th Congress¹**

[Date approved: August 2, 2006]²

Bill No. and sponsor: S. 2818 (Mr. Herbert Kohl of Wisconsin).

Proponent name, location: S.C. Johnson, Racine, WI.

Other bills on product (109th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty reduction through December 31, 2009.

Retroactive effect: None.

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

Bath and shower cleaning appliance, capable of dispensing cleaning solution into a tub or shower enclosure using a button-activated, battery-powered piston pump controlled by a microchip (provided for in subheading 8509.80.00)

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:

An automatic shower cleaner device comprises a plastic receptacle fitted with a manually activated battery-powered piston pump controlled by a microchip. It is designed to release a measured amount of solution on demand in order to remove mold, mildew and soap build-up from bathroom shower tile and fixtures. The device is activated by pressing a button, and its pump spins 360 degrees for up to 12 seconds, with a maximum spray range of 8 feet.

The principal source of these automatic shower cleaner devices is China.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Ruben Mata (202-205-3403); 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.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: 8509.80.00					
 	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Col. 1-General rate of duty ³	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$789,500	\$375,375	\$373,220	\$276,507	\$276,507
Customs revenue loss 1/	\$16,580	\$7,883	\$7,838	\$5,807	\$5,807

1/ The estimated customs revenue loss figures reflect the proposed duty reduction from 4.2% to 2.1%. Source of estimated dutiable import data: Industry and 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?
		(Yes/No)		
S.C. Johnson (Proponent) Nancy Levenson, 202-331-1186	06/09/2007	No	No	No
Church & Dwight Peter Schumdlar, 609-497-7203	07/06/2006	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clorox, Inc. Elsie Brown, 510-271-2299	07/06/2006	No	No	No
Procter & Gamble Scott Miller, 202-393-3400	07/07/2006	No	No	No
Reckitt Benckiser Corp. Jan Wengler, 254-546-0298	07/06/2006	No	No	No
The Dial Corp. Rex Smith, 480-754-3425	07/06/2006	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁴

Slight modifications to the article description are proposed on page 1 in order to clarify its scope.

³ The proposed bill would temporarily reduce the 4.2 percent general duty rate to 2.1 percent ad valorem, as reflected in the customs revenue loss data set forth in the table.

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.

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2818

To reduce temporarily the duty on automatic shower cleaners.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 17, 2006

Mr. KOHL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to
the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To reduce temporarily the duty on automatic shower
cleaners.

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. ELECTRIC AUTOMATIC SHOWER CLEANERS.**

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:

“	9902.98.08	Bath and shower cleaner electric device that dispenses a dilute solution of detergents and bleach alternative into a shower enclosure using a button activated, battery powered piston pump controlled by a microchip that automatically releases a measured amount of solution on demand (provided for in subheading 8509.80.00)	2.1%	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2009	”.
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1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) applies with respect to goods entered, or
3 withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after
4 the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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