

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

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

[Date approved: August 30, 2006]²

Bill No. and sponsor: S. 3084 (Mr. Sam Brownback of Kansas).

Proponent name, location: Mommy's Helper, Wichita, KS.

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

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

Retroactive effect: None.

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

Bathtub or shower safety handles of plastics, designed to be attached to fixtures or walls, with tab levers for creating suction (provided for in subheading 3926.90.25).

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 product is a lightweight, portable plastic safety handle device for both children and adults, designed to be installed on the top portion of the entry/exit side of a bathtub or on smooth shower walls. It is attached by simply pressing tab levers at each end which provide suction for holding the device in place. The proponent sells this product under an exclusive marketing agreement as Safe-er-Grip.TM The proponent's product is imported from China. Other safety handles utilize different means of attachment (permanent or temporary);

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Ray Cantrell (202-205-3362); 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: 3926.90.25					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Col. 1-General rate of duty 1/	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$330,000	\$413,000	\$434,000	\$477,000	\$500,000
Customs revenue loss	\$21,450	\$26,845	\$28,210	\$31,005	\$32,500

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Commission and 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)		
Mommy's Helper (Proponent) Mr. Martin Park, 316-684-2229	07/15/2006	No	No	No
Bayer Corporation Ms. Karen Niedermeyer, 412-777-2058	07/19/2006	No	No	No
Boon, Inc. Mr. Andrew Douglas, 480-456-0224	07/21/2006	No	No	No
Bemis Manufacturing Company Ms. Lisa Herman, 920-467-4621 Ms. Sheryl Heimryl (Import Specialist).	07/21/2006	No	No	No
Carmichael International Service Ms. Carol Robertson, 213-353-0800	07/20/2006	No	No	No
Dorel Juvenile Group Rosemary Robinson, 812-372-0141 Viny D'Alleva, 781-364-3100; 364-3900	07/20/2006	No	No	No
Ginsey Industries Mr. Keith Haber, 856-933-1300, ext. 170 khaber@ginsey.com	07/19/2006	No	No	No
Graco Children's Products, Inc. Ms. Marsha Dawson, 610-884-8000	07/20/2006	No	No	No
Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association Mr. Mike Dwyer, 856-638-0420	07/18/2006	No	No	No
Juvenile Solutions Ms. Pamela Neckameyer, 818-778-0858	07/20/2006	No	No	No

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
LANXESS Corporation Ms. Jamie Schaeffer, 412-809-3666	07/19/2006	No	No	No
Potty Training Concepts Ms. Narmin Parpia, 713-817-1998	07/18/2006	No	No	No
PRIMO® Ms. Paulette Zazzara, 973-926-5900	07/21/2006	No	No	No
Retail Industries Leaders Association Ms. Lori Denim, 703-600-2012	07/20/2006	No	No	No
Target Stores Ms. Susan Flack, 202-822-6288 Ms. Toni Dembski, 612-696-2573	07/18/2006	No	No	No
Toys "R" US, Inc. Chris (service specialist), 800-869-7787	07/20/2006	No	No	No
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. Mr. Tres Bailey, 202-737-2806 Mr. Mark Haney, 202-216-9307	07/18/2006	No	No	No

Technical comments:³

It is suggested that the article description be modified as shown on page 1. We defer to Customs regarding the appropriate tariff classification of the goods but have suggested a different reference for this product as falling in HTS subheading 3926.90.25, covering handles and knobs, not elsewhere specified or included, of plastics, with a 6.5 percent general rate of duty.⁴

³ 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.

⁴ Staff correspondence with Ms. Joan Mazzola, National Import Specialist, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, New York, NY, July 20, 2006.

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 3084

To suspend temporarily the duty on bath tub safe-er-grips.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 25, 2006

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

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on bath tub safe-er-grips.

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. BATH TUB SAFE-ER-GRIPS.**

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:

“	9902.39.24	Bath tub safe-er-grips (provided for in subheading 3924.90.55)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2009	”.
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8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
9 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

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

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