



MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION of the 112th Congress

Date approved

I. Background

Bill number:

Sponsor name:

Sponsor state:

Interested entity:

Name

City

State

Other bills on product (112th Congress only):

Nature of bill:

Expiration date:

Current or previous chapter 99 heading:

Retroactive date:

CAS number (if applicable):

Industry analyst:

Telephone:

Tariff Affairs contact:

Telephone:

Note:

1. Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://www.usitc.gov/tariff_affairs/congress_reports/.
2. In regard to the country(ies) of origin listed in section III, this report focuses on dutiable imports and does not take into account any tariff preference programs or special rates of duty.

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

Staple fibers of viscose rayon, not carded, combed, or otherwise processed for spinning, measuring 1.67 decitex to 16.67 decitex and having a fiber length each measuring 20 mm or more but not over 150 mm (provided for in subheading 5504.10.00).

(If enacted, the tariff relief provided for in this bill would be available to any entity that imports the product that is covered by the bill.)

Description above compared with bill as introduced:

- Same
 Different (see Technical Comments section)

III. Other product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports

Viscose rayon is an artificial manmade fiber produced from cellulosic materials such as wood pulp, which is processed into viscose liquid and extruded through perforated metal disks (spinnerets) into an acid bath to produce long fiber strands. The viscose rayon strands are then cut to produce staple fibers. Viscose rayon is highly absorbent, soft and comfortable, easy to dye, and holds its shape well. These qualities are particularly suited for use in feminine hygiene products, including tampons and sanitary wipes. These fibers are primarily imported from China, Austria, and Germany.

IV. Estimated effect on customs revenue

| Subject product HTS subheading(s) | 5504.10.00 | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Item | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Col.1-general rate of duty (%) | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.3 |
| Estimated value of <i>dutiable</i> imports (\$) | 200,000,000 | 200,000,000 | 200,000,000 | 200,000,000 | 200,000,000 |
| Customs revenue loss (\$) | 8,600,000 | 8,600,000 | 8,600,000 | 8,600,000 | 8,600,000 |

Note: Customs revenue loss is provided for 5 years, although the effective period of the proposed legislation may differ. Regarding the HTS subheading listed in the article description of the bill, the Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only U.S. Customs and Border Protection is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that Customs should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

Dutiable imports were based on (more than one may apply):

- Official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce
 Provided by industry sources
 Industry information
 Commission estimates

Duty reduction notes:

- This bill is not a duty reduction
 This bill is a temporary duty reduction. Rates are shown below.

Col.1-general duty rate (%) Temporary rate (%) Percentage point reduction (%)

V. Technical comments

We note that the metric unit of measure "decitex" is a measure of linear density; the number refers to the weight in grams of 10,000 meters of yarn. The second "decitex" was added to product description.

VI. Continuation

Other bills...--continued:

S. 2592 (Mr. Tom Carper, DE)

Suggested Article Description... -- continued:

If enacted, the tariff relief provided for in this bill would be available to any entity that imports the product that is covered by the bill.

VII. Contacts with domestic firms/organizations

| # | Firm/organization and contact name | Telephone number | Claims same or competing product made in the United States | Submission attached | Opposition noted |
|----|--|---------------------|--|---------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Playtex Manufacturing (Interested entity), Clifford Gibbons | 202-783-6000 | No | No | No |
| 2 | American Fiber Manufacturers Association, Frank Horn | 678-974-7928 | No | No | No |
| 3 | American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition, Sara Beatty | 202-452-0866 | No | No | No |
| 4 | Consolidated Fibers Bob Kunik | 704-293-6240 | No | No | No |
| 5 | Johnson & Johnson Ralph Sheppard | 203-256-1401 | No | No | No |
| 6 | Kimberly-Clark Fred Shaffer | 920-721-3117 | No | No | No |
| 7 | Milliken & Company Kathi Duthil | 202-775-0084 | No | No | No |
| 8 | National Council of Textile Organizations, Sarah Pierce | 202-822-8026 | No | No | No |
| 9 | National Spinning Bob Miller | 212-382-6403 | No | No | No |
| 10 | Nice-Pak Products Inc., Shawn Smith | 845-365-1700 | No | No | No |
| 11 | Parkdale Mills Shane Hamrick | 704-874-5046 | No | No | No |
| 12 | Procter & Gamble Scott Miller | 202-393-3404 | No | No | No |
| 13 | Shuford Yarns Marvin Smith | 828-324-4265, x2224 | No | No | No |
| 14 | Suominen Larry Kin | 860-654-8300 | No | No | No |

112TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4422

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain staple fibers of viscose rayon.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 19, 2012

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

A BILL

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain staple fibers of viscose rayon.

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. CERTAIN STAPLE FIBERS OF VISCOSE RAYON.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Heading 9902.23.33 of the Har-
5 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States (relating to
6 certain staple fibers of viscose rayon) is amended by strik-
7 ing “12/31/2012” and inserting “12/31/2015”.

8 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
9 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to goods entered,
10 or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after

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1 the date that is 15 days after the date of enactment of
2 this Act.

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