



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)):

Mechanical clock movements, complete and assembled, valued over \$5 each, suitable for the production of grandfather clocks, wall clocks, and mantel clocks (provided for in subheading 9109.90.60).

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

The subject clock movements are intricate mechanical devices that synchronize accurate timekeeping with musical melody. A segment of the melody is played every quarter hour. The melody is played through a series of hammers that are lifted in proper sequence to strike a series of steel rods in a chime rod assembly (separate from the mechanical clock movement). Each steel rod is designed to produce a specific musical note. The movement includes an option to silence the melody during nighttime hours.

The movements are powered by one of two methods. First, a key is used by the consumer to wind the spring. The spring is designed to operate the movement for at least seven days. The second method of power is by hanging weights from a cable or a chain. Similar to the spring method, the weights are wound up every seven days. Accurate timekeeping is maintained by either a delicate escapement or a regulating pendulum.

Fine quality movements are produced exclusively in Germany, and the subject movements are imported from Germany.

IV. Estimated effect on customs revenue

Subject product HTS subheading(s)	9109.90.60				
Item	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Col.1-general rate of duty (%)	4.65	4.65	4.65	4.65	4.65
Estimated value of <i>dutiable</i> imports (\$)	2,500,000	2,570,000	2,640,000	2,880,000	2,970,000
Customs revenue loss (\$)	116,250	119,505	122,760	133,920	138,105

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

The suggested article description incorporates the preferred tariff nomenclature for the product in the bill.

VI. Continuation

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	Howard Miller Clock Company (Interested entity) Mike Wallace	616-772-7277 ext. 218	No	No	No
2	Black Forest Imports, Inc. Peter Lickl	336-790-5184	No	No	No
3	Brandywine Clock Gideon Stolfus	610-273-3395	No	No	No
4	Butterworth Clocks Mark Butterworth	563-263-6759	No	No	No
5	Hermle Black Forest Clocks Bill Mangold	434-946-7751	No	No	No
6	Merritt Antiques Kim Pribish	610-689-9541 ext. 254	No	No	No
7	R&M Imports Randy Thatcher	513-897-5015	No	No	No
8	Ridgeway Clocks Company John Oren	616-772-9131	No	No	No

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4739

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain clock movements.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2012

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

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain clock movements.

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 CLOCK MOVEMENTS.**

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	Clock movements, complete and assembled, valued over \$5 each (provided for in subheading 9109.90.60)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2015	”.
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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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