



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)):

Time switches designed for indoor/outdoor use, programmable, capable of controlling time periods extending longer than 60 minutes, valued over \$5 each (provided for in subheading 9107.00.80)

(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

The subject products, electric time switches (timers) valued over \$5 each, manage time control for lights and appliances. Such timers can be used to automatically turn on and off any energy-consuming lighting or appliances, thus reducing energy costs. The timers also can be used to control lighting in greenhouses or, in conjunction with lighting, serve as an anti-theft deterrent by giving a home a "lived in" appearance. Lighting control timers can be wired into the electrical system of a home or business or plugged into electrical outlets; some may operate remotely, through computerized "smart home" software or other means. Timers for industrial applications may have additional programming and safety features, or be designed to carry a heavier electrical load compared with a typical household timer. Mexico and China are the leading suppliers, with Mexico accounting for 60 percent of total U.S. imports in 2011 and China accounting for 28 percent of total imports and 70 percent of dutiable imports. Opposition to this bill is noted below in the Contacts table.

IV. Estimated effect on customs revenue

Subject product HTS subheading(s)	9107.00.80 (See VI. Continuation)				
Item	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Col.1-general rate of duty or percentage point reduction (%)	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36
Estimated value of <i>dutiable</i> imports (\$)	1,100,000	1,133,000	1,167,000	1,202,000	1,238,000
Customs revenue loss (\$)	113,960	117,379	120,901	124,527	128,257

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 article description set forth above has been modified for greater clarity and to conform more closely to the permanent tariff category's description.

VI. Continuation

The duty rate shown in the table above is a weighted average equivalent of the compound duty rate in subheading 9107.00.80.

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	Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc. (Interested entity) David Olave	202-730-4960	No	No	No
2	Lutron Electronics Co., Inc. Mark Yoder	610-282-6530	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	Philips Electronics Michelle DeMoor	202-962-8551	No	No	No

Dear Mr. Watkins:

Lutron does protest H.R. 5130, the proposal for programmable countdown timers. We produce a line of timer products, whose sales may be impacted by this legislation.

Thank you for contacting us. It is great to know you are looking out for the interests of domestic manufacturers.

Best regards,

Mark D. Yoder, CMA
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112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5130

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain time switches.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 27, 2012

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

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain time switches.

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 INDOOR/OUTDOOR PROGRAMMABLE**
4 **AND COUNTDOWN TIME SWITCHES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
6 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
7 amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
8 new heading:

“	9902.01.00	Indoor/outdoor programmable and countdown time switches for greater than 60 minute control, valued over \$5 each (provided for in subheading 9107.00.80)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2015	”.
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1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) applies to articles entered, or withdrawn
3 from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day
4 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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