

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION  
of the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress<sup>1</sup>**

[Date approved: September 28, 2006]<sup>2</sup>

**Bill No. and sponsor:** S. 3280 (Mrs. Dianne Feinstein of California).

**Proponent name, location:** Hitachi America, Ltd., Brisbane, CA.

**Other bills on product (109<sup>th</sup> 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)):**

Camcorders each capable of recording and reproducing video images on mini-DVD media in all the following formats: DVD-R, DVD-RW, DVD-RAM, or DVD+RW, the foregoing each with 25 power optical zoom and a lens diameter of 34 mm (provided for in subheading 8525.40.80).

**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:**

A camcorder is an electronic device combining a video camera and video recorder in one device. These camcorders record video images onto media known as mini-DVD, an optical recording disc measuring 80 mm in diameter. There are four separate recording formats for mini-DVD media: DVD-R, DVD-RW, DVD-RAM, or DVD+RW. The subject camcorders can record and reproduce images using all of these formats. These camcorders also incorporate a USB 2.0 connection to permit video images to be uploaded to and downloaded from a computer, and a 34 mm lens with 25 power optical zoom. The covered camcorders are sourced principally from Japan.

<sup>1</sup> Industry analyst preparing report: John Kitzmiller (202-205-3387); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

<sup>2</sup> Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at [http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel\\_doc/bill\\_reports/index.htm](http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/index.htm).

**Estimated effect on customs revenue:**

<b>HTS subheading: 8525.40.80</b>					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Col. 1-General rate of duty	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$15,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$17,000,000	\$18,000,000	\$19,000,000
Customs revenue loss	\$315,000	\$336,000	\$357,000	\$378,000	\$399,000

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)		
Hitachi America, Ltd. (Proponent) Max Turnipseed, 225-338-0310	07/26/2006	No	No	No
Canon USA Susan Turner, 516-328-4824	08/01/2006	No	No	No
JVC Co. Tom St. Maxens, 202-966-9000	08/01/2006	No	No	No
Panasonic Co. Mary Alexander, 202-912-3800	07/26/2006	No	No	No
Sharp Electronics Mary Latham, 201-529-8892	08/01/2006	No	No	No
Sony Co. Christina Tellalian, 202-429-3653	07/26/2006	No	No	No

**Technical comments:**<sup>3</sup>

A reference to a patented technology has been removed in the suggested modified description shown on page 1; such limiting criteria are generally not desirable in the HTS because they limit the scope of a duty suspension to particular firms. Moreover, CBP has no way to ascertain whether products incorporate any particular patented technology, or to determine the size of the image sensing device.

<sup>3</sup> 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  
2D SESSION

# S. 3280

To suspend temporarily the duty on mini DVD camcorder with 680K pixel CCD.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 26, 2006

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

## A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on mini DVD camcorder with 680K pixel CCD.

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. MINI DVD CAMCORDER WITH 680K PIXEL CCD.**

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:

“	9902.85.25	Mini-DVD camcorder, full multiformat readability with patented laser processor technology; 680K pixel CCD, 25x to 30x optical zoom (provided for in subheading 8525.40.80) .....	Free	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 to goods entered, or withdrawn from  
3 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after  
4 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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