



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)):

Viscose rayon staple fibers having a decitex of less than 5.0 and a multi-limbed cross-section, the limbs having a length-to-width aspect ratio of at least 2:1 (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 man-made 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. Rayon fibers included in heading 9902.55.04 are used in the production of industrial and household products including tampons, sanitary wipes, baby wipes, rayon mops, and other household cleaning products. Imports of these rayon staple fibers are primarily from Germany. H.R. 4583 and S. 3091 also cover rayon fibers under heading 9902.55.04; these bills would also change the duty reduction from 1.8 percent to 1.3 percent.

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 (%)	3	3	3	3	3
Estimated value of <i>dutiable</i> imports (\$)	30,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000
Customs revenue loss (\$)	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000

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

H.R. 4947 and H.R. 4583 are identical. H.R. 4947 encompasses fibers that could also qualify under bills H.R. 4422 and H.R. 4603, which are also identical. The article description for H.R. 4947 contains an overlapping criterion for measure in decitex with H.R. 4422 and H.R. 4603. However, H.R. 4947 specifies multi-limbed fibers, while H.R. 4422 and H.R. 4603 have a

provision on fiber length. Whether or not these provisions overlap is unclear. This overlapping scope makes it impossible to estimate with any certainty the volume of imports under each bill.

VI. Continuation

Interested entity... -- continued:

Manufacturing location: Auburn, ME.

Other bills on product... -- continued:

H.R. 4583 (Mrs. Sue Myrick NC), S. 3091 (Mrs. Kay Hagan, NC) (see technical comments section)

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	Procter & Gamble (Interested entity) Scott Miller	202-393-3404	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	Inman Mills Ben Truslow	864-472-0252	No	No	No
6	INVISTA Jodie Stutzman	316-828-1786	No	No	No
7	Johnson & Johnson Ralph Sheppard	203-256-1401	No	No	No
8	Kimberly-Clark Fred Shaffer	920-721-3117	No	No	No
9	Milliken & Company Kathi Duthil	202-775-0084	No	No	No
10	National Council of Textile Organizations Sarah Pierce	202-822-8026	No	No	No
11	National Spinning Bob Miller	212-382-6403	No	No	No
12	Nice-Pak Shawn Smith	845-365-1700	No	No	No
13	Parkdale Mills Shane Hamrick	704-874-5046	No	No	No
14	Shuford Yarns Marvin Smith	828-324-4265, x2224	No	No	No
15	Suominen Larry Kinn	860-654-8300	No	No	No
16	Tuscarora Yarns Joe McLester	704-436-0422	No	No	No

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4947

To extend and modify the temporary reduction of duty on certain rayon staple fibers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2012

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

A BILL

To extend and modify the temporary reduction of duty on certain rayon staple fibers.

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 RAYON STAPLE FIBERS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Heading 9902.55.04 of the Har-
5 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States (relating to
6 certain rayon staple fibers) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “1.8%” and inserting “1.3%” in
8 the general rate of duty column; and

9 (2) by striking the date in the effective period
10 column and inserting “12/31/2015”.

1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
2 subsection (a) apply 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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