

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2653

To require the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements to report to Congress by April 1, 1999, on the availability of certain wool fabric, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 21 (legislative day, OCTOBER 2), 1998

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. D'AMATO, and Mr. LOTT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To require the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements to report to Congress by April 1, 1999, on the availability of certain wool fabric, and for other purposes.

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. STUDY ON WOOL TARIFFS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Committee for the Implemen-
5 tation of Textile Agreements, with the International Trade
6 Administration of the Department of Commerce, shall re-
7 port to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House
8 of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the

1 Senate, not later than April 1, 1999, regarding the Com-
2 mittee's determination on the following:

3 (1) The current and projected availability
4 through December 31, 2004, of the following fabrics
5 from NAFTA parties:

6 (A) Fabrics, of carded or combed wool or
7 fine animal hair, all the foregoing certified by
8 the importer as "Super 70's" or "Super 80's"
9 intended for use in making suits, suit-type jack-
10 ets, or trousers (provided for in the subheading
11 5111.11.70, 5111.19.60, 5112.11.20, or
12 5112.19.90 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule
13 of the United States).

14 (B) Fabrics, of carded or combed wool or
15 fine animal hair, all the foregoing certified by
16 the importer as "Super 90's" or higher grade
17 intended for use in making suits, suit-type jack-
18 ets, or trousers (provided for in the subheading
19 5111.11.70, 5111.19.80, 5112.11.20, or
20 5112.19.90 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule
21 of the United States).

22 (2) The existence of a deficiency in supply of
23 any of the fabric categories described in paragraph
24 (1) (A) and (B), including United States domestic

1 producers of such fabrics and the causes of any defi-
2 ciency of supply.

3 (3) The economic consequences resulting from
4 the deficiency, if any, for United States producers of
5 the textile goods and articles using the fabric in the
6 categories described in paragraph (1) (A) and (B)
7 including U.S. domestic producers of such fabrics.

8 (4) The economic consequences for producers
9 described in paragraph (3) and United States pro-
10 ducers of fiber, tops, yarn, and fabric resulting
11 from—

12 (A) the reduction of tariffs in 1999 for the
13 wool fabrics described in paragraph (1)(A), and

14 (B) the elimination of tariffs in 1999 for
15 the wool fabrics described in paragraph (1)(B).

16 (5) The capability of the United States Cus-
17 toms Service to effectively monitor and verify that
18 the imports of the fabrics described in paragraph (1)
19 (A) and (B) meet United States tariff and quota re-
20 quirements.

21 (6) The economic consequences of the wool ap-
22 parel tariff preference level provision in the United
23 States-Canada Free Trade Agreement and North
24 American Free Trade Agreement on the United
25 States wool textile and apparel industry.

1 (b) IMPACT ON WTO AGREEMENTS.—Nothing in this
2 section is intended to affect the elimination of quotas or
3 the application of safeguards provided for in the Agree-
4 ment on Textiles and Clothing or the Agreement on Safe-
5 guards.

6 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

7 (1) AGREEMENT ON SAFEGUARDS.—The term
8 “Agreement on Safeguards” means the Agreement
9 on Safeguards referred to in section 101(d)(13) of
10 the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C.
11 3511(d)(13)).

12 (2) AGREEMENT ON TEXTILES AND CLOTH-
13 ING.—The term “Agreement on Textiles and Cloth-
14 ing” means the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing
15 referred to in section 101(d)(4) of the Uruguay
16 Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(4)).

17 (3) NAFTA PARTY.—The term “NAFTA
18 party” means a country that is a party to the North
19 American Free Trade Agreement entered into be-
20 tween the United States, Mexico, and Canada on
21 December 17, 1992.

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