

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 27, 2006]<sup>2</sup>

**Bill No. and sponsor:** S. 3289 (Mr. George Allen of Virginia).

**Proponent name, location:** Hamilton Beach/Proctor-Silex, Glen Allen, VA.

**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)):**

Electromechanical knives, with self-contained electric motor (provided for in subheading 8509.80.00).

**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:**

An electric knife is used for cutting hard-to-slice foods. Electric knives are powered by an electric motor and therefore require less physical effort to make cleaner slices. The device consists of two serrated blades that are clipped together. When the appliance is switched on, the blades continuously move sideways to provide the necessary sawing action. The principal import source of electric knives is China.

**Estimated effect on customs revenue:**

HTS subheading: <u>8509.80.00</u>					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<del>Col. 1-General rate of duty</del>					
Col. 1-General rate of duty	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$2,630,000	\$2,630,000	\$2,630,000	\$2,630,000	\$2,630,000
Customs revenue loss	\$110,460	\$110,460	\$110,460	\$110,460	\$110,460

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Official U.S. Government statistics and industry and Commission estimates.

<sup>1</sup> Industry analyst preparing report: Ruben Mata (202-205-3403); 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).

**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)		
Hamilton Beach/Proctor-Silex (Proponent) Tripp Dillard, 804-418-7759	08/09/2006	No	No	No
Applica, Inc. Harry D. Schulman, 888-677-7251	08/17/2006	No	No	No
Back to Basics Co. Mark Beesley, 801-523-6600	08/17/2006	No	Yes	No
Conair Corp. Leandro P. Rizzuto, 203-975-4600	08/11/2006	No	No	No
Jarden Consumer Solutions Rocky Rockingham, 561-912-4371	08/21/2006	No	No	No
National Presto Industries Mary Jo Cohen, 715-839-2117	08/14/2006	No	No	No

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

It is suggested that the article description be modified slightly, as shown on page 1, to match the language of the permanent tariff category more closely.

<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.

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 3289

To suspend temporarily the duty on electric knives.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 26, 2006

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

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## A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on electric knives.

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. ELECTRIC KNIVES.**

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:

“	9902.85.12	Electric knives (provided for in sub-heading 8509.80.00) .....	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2009	”.
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8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
9 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

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- 1 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after
- 2 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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