

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 111th Congress¹**

[Date approved: February 23, 2010]²

Bill No. and sponsor: S. 1826 (Mr. Baucus of Montana).

Proponent name,³ location: Mother Moose Enterprises, Missoula, MT.

Other bills on product (111th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2011.

Retroactive effect: None.

Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):

Glass snow globes, valued over \$0.30 but not over \$3 each, the foregoing not constituting festive articles (provided for in subheading 7013.99.50).

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:

Glass snow globes that are not “festive articles” (HTS heading 9505) are decorative articles characterized by the glass material of the globe (of spheroid, dome, or other shapes). They are available in a variety of sizes, and the figurine, object, or scenery within does not reflect a holiday theme. As the name implies, a snow globe is filled with plastic flakes (or metallic glitter) in an aqueous liquid that submerges a figurine, object, or scenery of plastic or other materials attached to the base. Shaking or inverting the snow globe stirs up the plastic flakes that settle slowly in the liquid when the globe is set upright, thus creating the effect of snow fall upon the figurine, object, or scenery inside. Such snow globes are sold as gifts, promotional items, paperweights, pencil holders, souvenirs, and collectibles, for they may include a slogan, locality name, business name, product name, or other advertising labeling. China is the single largest supplier of products under HTS subheading 7013.99.50.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Karl Tsuji (202-205-3434); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

² Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://www.usitc.gov/tariff_affairs/congress_reports/.

³ The sponsor and proponent identified two additional beneficiaries of this bill. USITC staff sent inquiries to the additional beneficiaries and received responses from the beneficiaries, each of which submitted written representations that it would benefit from this bill.

Estimated effect on customs revenue for the subject product classifiable in HTS subheading 7013.99.50:

| | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Col. 1-General rate of duty | 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% |
| Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports ^a | \$685,000 | \$685,000 | \$685,000 | \$685,000 | \$685,000 |
| Customs revenue loss ^b | \$205,500 | \$205,500 | \$205,500 | \$205,500 | \$205,500 |

a/ Dutiable import estimates were based on Commission estimates that imports of these highly specific subject products do not exceed 1 percent of all imports under this residual or “basket” tariff category.

b/ At the request of Congress, customs revenue loss is provided for 5 years, although the effective period of the proposed legislation may differ.

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) | |
| Mother Moose Enterprises (Proponent) Larry Kupper, President (406-721-2698, mothermoose@montana.com) | 11/20/2009 | No | No | No |
| American Gift Corp. Hal Kluger, President (305-884-6800, hkluger@giftcorp.com) | 11/24/2009 | No | Yes | No |
| Topline Products Inc. Lupita Vargas, Purchasing Director (425-226-0738, lupita@topline.com) | 11/24/2009 | No | Yes | No |

Technical comments:⁴

It is suggested that the article description of the proposed heading be worded as shown on page 1, to provide added clarity about the scope of this new duty suspension.

⁴ 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.

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1826

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain glass snow globes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 21, 2009

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

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain glass snow globes.

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. GLASS SNOW GLOBES.**

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:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|--|------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------|----|
| “ | 9902.01.00 | Glass snow globes, not festive (provided for in subheading 7013.99.50) | Free | No change | No change | On or before 12/31/2011 | ”. |
|---|------------|--|------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------|----|

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
9 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

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

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