

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

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

[Date approved: April 8, 2010]²

Bill No. and sponsor: S. 1844 (Mr. Judd Gregg of New Hampshire).

Proponent name,³ location: Snowsports Industries America, McLean, VA.

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)):

Ski poles and parts and accessories thereof (provided for in subheading 9506.19.80).

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:

The subject products are used for Alpine (downhill) skiing.⁴ The leading suppliers are Italy (31 percent of total U.S. imports in 2008), Taiwan (20 percent), Austria (13 percent), China (13 percent), the Czech Republic (11 percent), and Lithuania (10 percent). All other suppliers accounted for only 2 percent of total U.S. imports in 2008.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Ralph Watkins (202-205-3492); Tariff Affairs contact: Daniel Shepherdson (202-205-2598).

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

³ The proponent identified seven additional beneficiaries of this bill. USITC staff sent inquiries to the additional beneficiaries and received responses from three. All three submitted a written representation that they would benefit from this bill.

⁴ Ski poles and parts and accessories thereof designed specifically for Nordic (cross-country) skiing are classified in HTS subheading 9506.19.40 and have a duty rate of "Free."

Estimated effect on customs revenue for the subject product classifiable in HTS subheading 9506.19.80:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Col. 1-General rate of duty					
Col. 1-General rate of duty	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports ^a	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000
Customs revenue loss ^b	\$336,000	\$336,000	\$336,000	\$336,000	\$336,000

a/ Dutiable import estimates were based on official U.S. Government statistics.

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)	
Snowsports Industries America (Proponent) David Ingemie, President, 703-506-4225	11/30/2009	No	No	No
Goode David Goode, 801-621-2300	12/1/2009	No	No	No
K2 Robert Marcovitch robert_marcovitch@k2sports.com	12/1/2009	No	No	No
LEKI Greg Wozer, 716-683-1022	12/1/2009	No	No	No
Masters Steve Kvinlaug, 603-448-3101	12/1/2009	No	No	No
Rossignol Francois Goulet, 435-252-3300	12/1/2009	No	No	No
Scott Larry Morton, 208-622-1000	12/1/2009	No	No	No
Swix Steve Poulin, 978-657-4820	12/2/2009	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁵

The Commission staff suggests that the proposed article description be amended by deleting “9506.19.8040” and inserting “9506.19.80” in lieu thereof as reflected on page 1 of this report.

⁵ 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. 1844

To suspend temporarily the duty on ski poles.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 22, 2009

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

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on ski poles.

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 SKI EQUIPMENT.**

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	Ski poles and parts and accessories thereof (provided for in subheading 9506.19.8040)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2011	”.
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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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