

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

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

[Date approved: March 25, 2010]²

Bill No. and sponsor: S. 2546 (Mr. Roland Burris of Illinois).

Proponent name,³ location: The Bradford Group, Niles, IL.

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

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

Retroactive effect: None.

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

Music boxes with mechanical musical movements, presented in the immediate packaging for shipment to the ultimate purchaser, and each weighing not over 6 kg together with retail packaging (provided for in subheading 9208.10.00).

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:

Music boxes are a category of musical devices that play an automated selection of music when activated (usually by a switch in the box's lid). The subject music boxes have mechanical movements that make music by means of raised pins on a rotating cylinder or a disc that "pluck" the "teeth" on a tuned steel comb, with the "tune" repeating after each revolution. A wound spring provides the mechanical energy to drive these devices. In addition to wood, music boxes are made from a variety of materials including silver, ceramics, resin, and crystal. The principal sources of U.S. imports of music boxes are China, Italy, and Switzerland.

HTS subheading 9208.10.00 also covers a modern variation of music boxes in which mechanical movements are replaced by battery-powered semiconductor chips or other non-mechanical apparatus, programmed to produce the appropriate musical notes. As reflected in the article description set forth above from HTS heading 9902.13.47, the proponent has indicated that such articles are not intended to be covered by the proposed legislation. Another unique characteristic of the music boxes that the proponent imports is that they are individually prepackaged by the foreign supplier in a protective mailer to which a mailing label and postage can be directly applied to facilitate shipment to the ultimate consumer of the product.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Marin Weaver (202-205-3461); 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/proponent did not identify any additional beneficiaries of this bill.

Estimated effect on customs revenue for the subject product classifiable in HTS subheading 9208.10.00:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Col. 1-General rate of duty	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports ^a	\$22,000,000	\$22,000,000	\$22,000,000	\$22,000,000	\$22,000,000
Customs revenue loss ^b	\$704,000	\$704,000	\$704,000	\$704,000	\$704,000

a/ Dutiable import estimates were provided by industry sources.

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)	
The Bradford Group (Proponent) Mr. Joel Platt, 847-581-8351	12/01/2009	No	No	No
The Danbury Mint Nicole Papcun, 800-243-4664, ext. 4423	12/29/2009	No	No	No
Porter Music Box. Co., Inc. Mr. Jim Sault, 802-728-9694	12/02/2009	Yes	No	No
Reed & Barton John Alakel, 800-343-1383, ext. 376	12/29/2009	No	No	No
Shaker Workshops 978-827-6554	12/29/2009	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁴

None.

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. 2546

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain music boxes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 30, 2009

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

A BILL

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain music
boxes.

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 MUSIC BOXES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Heading 9902.13.47 of the Har-
5 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States (relating to
6 certain music boxes) is amended by striking “12/31/2009”
7 and inserting “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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