

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION  
of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress<sup>1</sup>**

[Date approved: April 16, 2010]<sup>2</sup>

**Bill No. and sponsor:** S. 2550 (Mr. Roland Burris of Illinois).

**Proponent name,<sup>3</sup> location:** The Bradford Group, Niles, IL.

**Other bills on product (111<sup>th</sup> 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)):**

Jewelry of silver, whether or not plated or clad with other precious metal, displaying a person's name or a message, individually packaged for the ultimate purchaser and put up for mail order retail sale, each having a customs value of less than \$60 (provided for in subheading 7113.11.50).

**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:**

The subject product represents a relatively small, unique segment of the jewelry market. Manufacturers engrave or otherwise imprint on the jewelry a name, sentiment, or saying appropriate to the piece of jewelry. Products typically consist of locket, bracelets, necklaces, rings, and pendants. They are worn as items of personal adornment or to express the engraved sentiment. The goods are primarily ordered by customers (postpaid) using the Internet or other means and are typically imported from manufacturers in China individually prepackaged in small boxes. The boxes are designed to be suitable for the ultimate consumer and need only be inserted into a protective envelope or outer carton for shipment to customers through the U.S. postal system, in this case via the proponent's domestic warehouse in Bensonville, Illinois, where mailing labels are attached. A very small portion might be sold at the wholesale level, primarily to small gift shops.

<sup>1</sup> Industry analyst preparing report: Gail Burns (202-205-2501); Tariff Affairs contact: Donnette Rimmer (202-205-0663).

<sup>2</sup> Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at [http://www.usitc.gov/tariff\\_affairs/congress\\_reports/](http://www.usitc.gov/tariff_affairs/congress_reports/).

<sup>3</sup> 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 7113.11.50:**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Col. 1-General rate of duty	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports <sup>a</sup>	\$5,590,000	\$5,590,000	\$5,590,000	\$5,590,000	\$5,590,000
Customs revenue loss <sup>b</sup>	\$279,500	\$279,500	\$279,500	\$279,500	\$279,500

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) Joel Platt, 847-581-8351	01/25/2010	No	No	No
Abbey Press 888-374-4226	01/25/2010	No	No	No
Limoges Jewelry 800-400-2854	02/02/2010	No	No	No
Signals 800-669-5225	01/28/2010	No	No	No
Danbury Mint 203-853-2000	02/02/2010	No	No	No

**Technical comments:<sup>4</sup>**

It is suggested that the article description of the proposed heading be amended to read as shown on page 1, in order to add clarity to the description.

<sup>4</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.

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2550

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain personalized jewelry.

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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

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## A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain personalized  
jewelry.

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 PERSONALIZED JEWELRY.**

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	Jewelry personalized with a person's name or displaying written sentiments or sayings, individually packaged for the ultimate purchaser and put up for mail order retail sale, and each having an import value of less than \$60, (provided for in subheading 7113.11.50) ...	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2011	”.
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1           (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
2 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from  
3 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after  
4 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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