

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. 2565 (Mr. Roland W. 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, 2011.⁴

Retroactive effect: None.

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

Decorative plates, whether or not with decorative rim or attached sculpture; decorative sculptures, each with plate or plaque attached, and decorative plaques each not over 7.65 cm in thickness; architectural miniatures, whether or not put in sets; all the foregoing of resin materials and containing agglomerated stone, put up for mail order retail sale, whether for wall or tabletop display and each weighing not over 1.36 kg together with their retail packaging (provided for in subheading 3926.40.00).

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:

The existing duty suspension covers a range of collectible items fabricated from plastic resins and filled with small embedded stone in various combinations. The subject items consist of decorative plates, sculptures, and plaques, which may have miniature figures attached. Examples include Disney® character signature plates and decorative items that may be sold under exclusive licenses. The goods are ordered by customers postpaid using the Internet or other means, and are typically imported prepackaged in protective styrofoam containers—in the proponent’s case, from manufacturers in China. The containers are designed to be suitable for shipment to customers through the U.S. postal system via the proponent’s domestic warehouse in Bensonville, IL, where mailing labels are attached. The proponent imports the subject merchandise from China, although other domestic mail order firms may also import subject products from China and other countries.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Robert Randall (202-205-3366); 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 identified three additional beneficiaries of this bill. USITC staff sent inquiries to the additional beneficiaries and received responses from three. Three submitted a written representation that they would benefit from this bill.

⁴ Heading 9902.13.46, which expired at the end of 2009, had provided a duty suspension to the subject goods on proper importer claim.

Estimated effect on customs revenue for the subject product classifiable in HTS subheading 3926.40.00:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Col. 1-General rate of duty	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports ^a	\$7,217,000	\$7,217,000	\$7,577,850	\$7,956,742	\$8,354,579
Customs revenue loss ^{b,c}	\$382,501	\$382,501	\$401,626	\$421,707	\$442,793

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	12/23/2009	No	No	No
Camio Guild Chuck Harley, 805-388-1223	12/23/2009	No	No	No
The Danbury Mint Ted Stanley, 203-853-2000	12/23/2009	No	No	No
Goebel North America (Berta Hummel) Christy Morrison, 609-730-8944	12/23/2009	No	No	No
The Walt Disney Company Jessica Moore, 202-222-4765 jessica.moore@disney.com	12/23/2009	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁵

None.

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. 2565

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain decorative plates, sculptures, and plaques.

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 decorative plates, sculptures, and plaques.

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 DECORATIVE PLATES, SCULPTURES,**

4 **AND PLAQUES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Heading 9902.13.46 of the Har-
6 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States (relating to
7 certain decorative plates, sculptures, and plaques) is
8 amended by striking “12/31/2009” and inserting “12/31/
9 2011”.

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.

○