



MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION of the 112th Congress

Date approved

I. Background

Bill number:

Sponsor name:

Sponsor state:

Interested entity:

Name

City

State

Other bills on product (112th Congress only):

Nature of bill:

Expiration date:

Current or previous chapter 99 heading:

Retroactive date:

CAS number (if applicable):

Industry analyst:

Telephone:

Tariff Affairs contact:

Telephone:

Note:

1. Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://www.usitc.gov/tariff_affairs/congress_reports/.
2. In regard to the country(ies) of origin listed in section III, this report focuses on dutiable imports and does not take into account any tariff preference programs or special rates of duty.

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

Lenses designed for digital cameras, the foregoing with a focal length measuring approximately 10 mm or more but not over 24 mm and weighing 455 g or more but not over 465 g (provided for in subheading 9002.11.90).

(If enacted, the tariff relief provided for in this bill would be available to any entity that imports the product that is covered by the bill.)

Description above compared with bill as introduced:

- Same
 Different (see Technical Comments section)

III. Other product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports

The subject products are optical camera lenses optimized for use with digital single lens reflex (DSLR) cameras. These cameras can accommodate a variety of interchangeable lenses with differing lengths, widths, weights, or other characteristics to enable the user to perform different photographic functions. The subject lenses are normally referred to as "zoom lenses," which permit the user to enlarge the image (zooming in) or minimize the image (zooming out) and frame the image as desired by extending or retracting the focal length of the lens. These capabilities provide flexibility to meet various demands of the user in framing the desired picture. The subject lenses are imported primarily from Japan and China. Opposition to this bill is noted below in the Contacts Table.

IV. Estimated effect on customs revenue

Subject product HTS subheading(s)	9002.11.90				
Item	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Col.1-general rate of duty (%) or percentage point reduction	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Estimated value of <i>dutiable</i> imports (\$)	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Customs revenue loss (\$)	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000

Note: Customs revenue loss is provided for 5 years, although the effective period of the proposed legislation may differ. Regarding the HTS subheading listed in the article description of the bill, the Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only U.S. Customs and Border Protection is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that Customs should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

Dutiable imports were based on (more than one may apply):

- Official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce
 Provided by industry sources
 Industry information
 Commission estimates

Duty reduction notes:

- This bill is not a duty reduction
 This bill is a temporary duty reduction. Rates are shown below.

Col.1-general duty rate (%) Temporary rate (%) Percentage point reduction (%)

V. Technical comments

The article description was modified slightly with respect to the lens weight to be consistent with normal HTS usage.

VI. Continuation

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VII. Contacts with domestic firms/organizations

	#	Firm/organization and contact name	Telephone number	Claims same or competing product made in the United States	Submission attached	Opposition noted
	1	Nikon U.S.A., Inc. (Interested entity) Welles Orr	202-626-1481	No	No	No
	2	Canon U.S.A., Inc. Danny Wong	516-328-5000	No	No	No
	3	Pentax U.S.A., Inc. Susie Jordan	888-267-6422	No	No	No
	4	Sigma Corp. of America Mark Amir	800-877-0155, x1225	No	Yes	Yes
	5	Tamron Co., Ltd. Eugene Dyas	631-585-1144, x 019	No	No	No

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5433

To suspend temporarily the duty on lightweight digital camera lenses measuring approximately 10 mm or more.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2012

Mr. ISRAEL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on lightweight digital camera lenses measuring approximately 10 mm or more.

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. LIGHTWEIGHT DIGITAL CAMERA LENSES MEAS-**

4 **URING APPROXIMATELY 10 MM OR MORE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
6 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
7 amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
8 new heading:

“	9902.01.00	Lenses designed for digital cameras, the foregoing with a focal length measuring approximately 10 mm or more but not over 24 mm and weighing between 455 and 465 grams (provided for in sub-heading 9002.11.90)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2014	”.
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1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) applies to articles entered, or withdrawn
3 from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day
4 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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