MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 109th Congress

[Date approved: October 11, 2006]2

Bill No. and sponsor:  S. 3257 (Mr. Bill Frist of Tennessee on behalf of Mrs. Elizabeth Dole of North Carolina).

Proponent name, location:  Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc., Little Neck, NY.

Other bills on product (109th Congress only):  None.


Retroactive effect:  None.

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

Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) or GFCI electrical power outlets, all the foregoing rated over 15 A (provided for in subheading 8536.30.80).

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:

Ground fault circuit interrupters and ground fault circuit interrupter electrical power outlets rated greater than 15 amperes (A) are a type of ground fault circuit interrupter, or GFCI. A GFCI is a safety device used to reduce or prevent electrical shock with ground or ground equipment by interrupting the electrical current loading to a device that is set with a predetermined value. If the value of the ground current exceeds the predetermined value, then the GFCI will automatically turn off the electrical current to the device to prevent electrical shock.

GFCIs are most commonly used in areas where there is water. Plug-in GFCI devices rated at more than 15 A fit into standard electrical outlets and are most commonly used in health care facilities for all receptacles and for fixed equipment within wet location areas, mobile home parks for additional connection of electrical equipment located outside the home, marinas, and boatyards. A GFCI electrical power outlet is commonly used in residential applications for swimming pool equipment and lighting, wet bars, and work areas where a higher amperage is required; such a GFCI is part of the power outlet wired into the electrical system and provides additional protection to equipment. Such outlets differ from a “grounded outlet” designed for the insertion of three-pronged electrical plugs on power cords with a ground wire included.

The principal U.S. import sources of this product are China and Mexico.

1 Industry analyst preparing report: Falan Yinug (202-205-2160); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).
Estimated effect on customs revenue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HTS subheading: 8536.30.80</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Col. 1-General rate of duty</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated value of exports</td>
<td>$8,000,000</td>
<td>$8,500,000</td>
<td>$8,500,000</td>
<td>$9,000,000</td>
<td>$9,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs revenue loss</td>
<td>$216,000</td>
<td>$229,500</td>
<td>$229,500</td>
<td>$243,000</td>
<td>$243,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Industry and Commission estimates.

Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of firm/organization</th>
<th>Date contacted</th>
<th>Claim US makes same or competing product(s)? (Yes/No)</th>
<th>Submission attached? (Yes/No)</th>
<th>Opposition noted? (Yes/No)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc. (Proponent)  
  Stephen Hofmann, 202-216-9703  
  | 07/21/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| Bryant Electric  
  Fax: 800-543-0538  
  | 07/25/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| Cooper Industries, Ltd.  
  Terry Helz, 713-209-8408  
  | 07/24/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| Eaton Corp.  
  Barry Doggett, 216-423-4664  
  | 07/24/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| Emerson Electric Co.  
  Robert McDonald, 202-508-6303  
  | 07/24/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| Ericson Manufacturing Co.  
  Richard Fox, 440-951-8000  
  | 07/25/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| General Electric Co.  
  Sandy Merber, 202-637-4000  
  | 07/24/2006 | Yes  
  | Yes  
  | Yes  
  | Yes |
| Hitachi America, Ltd.  
  Carl Green, 202-828-9272  
  | 07/24/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| Hubbell Inc.  
  Thomas Conlin, 203-799-4293  
  | 07/24/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| Lutron Electronics Company, Inc.  
  610-282-3800  
  | 07/25/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
| National Electrical Manufacturers Association  
  John Meakem, 703-841-3243  
  | 07/21/2006 | No  
  | No  
  | No  
  | No |
3 Although TRC’s submission does not explicitly state U.S. production of this product, phone conversations with a TRC representative on Aug. 18, 2006 indicate that the firm manufactures this product in the United States.

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.
A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on ground fault circuit interrupter receptacles of greater than 15 amps.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CERTAIN GROUND FAULT CIRCUIT INTER-
RUPTER RECEPTACLES OF GREATER THAN 15
AMPS.

(a) In General.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
new heading:
(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.