MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 109th Congress ¹

[Date approved:  September 28, 2006]²

Bill No. and sponsor:  S. 3303 (Mr. George Allen of Virginia).

Proponent name, location:  Hamilton Beach/Proctor-Silex, Glen Allen, VA.

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


Retroactive effect:  None.

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

Electromechanical food grinders or processors, the foregoing each with self-contained electric motor, designed to be positioned atop an accompanying bowl or on other bowls of similar diameter during use (provided for in subheading 8509.40.00).

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 subject kitchen appliances are used to facilitate various repetitive and often difficult tasks in the process of preparation of food. A food slicer and shredder consists of an electrical motor which turns a vertical shaft positioned within an accompanying transparent plastic bowl. Shredding or slicing disks are attached to the shaft and spin near the top of the bowl. A lid with a “feed tube” is then fitted onto the bowl. The feed tube permits ingredients to be added while chopping, grinding or pureeing occurs. The tube also serves as a chute through which items are introduced to shredding or slicing disks. Unlike traditional food slicers and shredders, the proponent’s product allows the use of multiple reusable bowls that are available separately to permit the user to slice or shred food directly into each such bowls provided with the product; the additional bowls are intended to be used as “liners” in the permanent or accompanying bowl. The use of multiple bowls eliminates the need to empty and wash a permanent bowl between different ingredients. The multi-bowl slicer/shredder fits on the various bowls and empties the food directly into them. The principal import source of the subject appliances is China.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Ruben Mata (202-205-3403); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).
Estimated effect on customs revenue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HTS subheading: 8509.40.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Col. 1-General rate of duty of duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated value dutiable imports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs revenue loss</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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)?</th>
<th>Submission attached?</th>
<th>Opposition noted?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Beach/Proctor-Silex (Proponent) Tripp Dillard, 804-418-7759</td>
<td>08/09/2006</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applica, Inc. Harry D. Schulman, 888-677-7251</td>
<td>08/17/2006</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back to Basics Co. Mark Beesley, 801-523-6600</td>
<td>08/17/2006</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conair Corp. Leandro P. Rizzuto, 203-975-4600</td>
<td>08/11/2006</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Presto Industries Maryjo Cohen, 715-839-2121</td>
<td>08/14/2006</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Select Brands Eric Endres, 913-663-4500</td>
<td>08/09/2006</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Technical comments:

To describe the goods of interest to the proponent more clearly and to track more closely the language of the permanent tariff category, it is suggested that the article description be modified as shown on page 1. We suggest avoiding a distinction between “grinders” and “processors” if possible; the two types of appliance are covered by one nonlegal statistical reporting number in the current HTS.

3 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.
To suspend temporarily the duty on food slicers and shredders with top-mounted motors and replaceable mixing bowls.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 26, 2006

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

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on food slicers and shredders with top-mounted motors and replaceable mixing bowls.

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

SECTION 1. FOOD SLICERS AND SHREDDERS WITH TOP-MOUNTED MOTORS AND REPLACEABLE MIXING BOWLS.

(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.