

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION  
of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress<sup>1</sup>**

[Date approved: July 1, 2008]<sup>2</sup>

**Bill No. and sponsor:** H.R. 5095 (Mr. Howard Coble of North Carolina).

**Proponent name,<sup>3</sup> location:** National Council of Textile Organizations, Washington DC.

**Other bills on product (110<sup>th</sup> Congress only):** None.

**Nature of bill:** Extension of temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2011.

**Retroactive effect:** None.

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

Filament tow of rayon (provided for in subheading 5502.00.00).

**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:**

Rayon is an artificial fiber produced from cellulosic materials such as wood pulp, which is dissolved into a viscose solution and extruded through perforated metal disks (spinnerets) into an acid bath to produce long strands. These filament strands are gathered into a loose form called tow, which can be cut or stretched to produce fibers. Dutiable U.S. imports under HTS subheading 5502.00.00, which covers all artificial filament tow (cellulose acetate, protein fibers, alginate fibers, and all rayon fibers), totaled \$14.2 million in 2007. Japan was the primary supplier, with about \$12.3 million in shipments, followed by Germany, with about \$1.9 million.

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<sup>1</sup> Industry analyst preparing report: Heidi Colby-Oizumi (202-205-3391); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

<sup>2</sup> Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at [http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel\\_doc/bill\\_reports/](http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/).

<sup>3</sup> The sponsor/proponent did not identify any additional beneficiaries of this bill.

**Estimated effect on customs revenue:**

<b>HTS subheading: 5502.00.00</b>					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Col. 1-General rate of duty (AVE)	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$715,000	\$715,000	\$715,000	\$715,000	\$715,000
Customs revenue loss 1/	\$0	\$53,625	\$53,625	\$53,625	\$53,625

1/ There is an existing duty suspension under HTS heading 9902.23.27 that expires on December 31, 2009. Therefore, there will be no customs revenue loss related to this bill in 2009.

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Official U.S. Government statistics and Commission estimates.

**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)		
National Council of Textile Organizations (Proponent) Missy Branson, 202-822-8026	05/12/2008	No	No	No
National Textile Association David Trumbull, 617-542-8220	05/13/2008	No	Yes	No

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

None.

<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.

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5095

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on filament tow of rayon.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 22, 2008

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

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## A BILL

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on filament tow of rayon.

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. FILAMENT TOW OF RAYON.**

4       (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Heading 9902.23.27 of the Har-  
5       monized Tariff Schedule of the United States (relating to  
6       filament tow of rayon) is amended by striking “12/31/  
7       2009” and inserting “12/31/2011”.

8       (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
9       subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

- 1 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after
- 2 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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