

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION  
of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress<sup>1</sup>**

[Date approved: July 15, 2010]<sup>2</sup>

**Bill No. and sponsor:** S. 2267 (Mrs. Dianne Feinstein of California).

**Proponent name,<sup>3</sup> location:** Hitachi Chemical Co. America, Ltd.

**Other bills on product (111<sup>th</sup> Congress only):** None.

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

**Retroactive effect:** None.

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

Printed circuits having conductive elements embedded on an insulating base and wires stacked one on top of one another in multiple layers to function as multiple circuits, the foregoing designed for use in testing semiconductor wafers (provided for in heading 8534.00.00).<sup>4</sup>

**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:**

This product is a multi-wire printed circuit board, which the proponent uses in the testing of semiconductor wafers. Two types of printed circuit boards can be used in semiconductor test operations, and the multi-wire board is the less commonly used type. The other, more commonly used type is made through a different manufacturing process called "print and etch." Multi-wire boards are unique in that they feature many insulated wires "sewn" across a layer of the board. The advantage of this type of board is that two traces can cross on one layer, which allows more wires to be routed on a single layer than with the more common type of printed circuit board. The proponent of this bill holds a patent on multi-wire board. The production of multi-wire boards requires specialized equipment and software, so multi-wire board is best suited to use in low-volume applications. The source of imports is Japan.

<sup>1</sup> Industry analyst preparing report: Renee Berry (202-205-3498); 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/tariff\\_affairs/congress\\_reports/](http://www.usitc.gov/tariff_affairs/congress_reports/).

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

<sup>4</sup> See technical comments for information on the article's classification; the HTS subheading shown above differs from that in the bill as introduced.

**Estimated effect on customs revenue for the subject product classifiable in HTS heading 8534.00.00:**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Col. 1-General rate of duty	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports <sup>a</sup>	\$1,500,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,400,000	\$2,500,000
Customs revenue loss <sup>b</sup>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

a/ As stated in the HTS, the general duty rate is free. 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)		
Hitachi Chemical Co. America, Ltd. (Proponent) Lawrence Lin, lin@hitachi-chemical.com	01/12/2010	No	No	No
Hunter Technology Joseph O'Neil, joeo@hunterpcb.com	02/17/2010	No	No	No
IPC David Bergman, davidbergman@ipc.org	02/17/2010	No	No	No
SEMI Dan Tracy, dtracy@semi.org	02/12/2010	No	No	No

**Technical comments:<sup>5</sup>**

The article description shown on page 1 reflects information obtained from the proponent about the product it intends to import and to cover by this bill. Based upon that information, a National Import Specialist,<sup>6</sup> U.S. Customs and Border Protection, indicated that it is likely this product is properly classified under HTS heading 8534.00.00, covering printed circuits, and not under HTS subheading 8536.90.80 (which has a general duty rate of 2.7 percent ad valorem) as listed in the bill. The general rate of duty for products entered under heading 8534.00.00 is free. U.S. Customs is currently working with the proponent to resolve this discrepancy. If Customs should decide definitively that HTS heading 8534.00.00 is the proper HTS classification for this product, a temporary duty suspension would not be necessary. If Customs should determine that the bill's classification is correct, that HTS subheading number could be substituted in the provision shown on page 1.

<sup>5</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.

<sup>6</sup> Staff correspondence with Tom Campanelli and Linda Hackett, National Import Specialists, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, February 22, 2010.

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2267

To suspend temporarily the duty on multi interconnection board.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 29, 2009

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

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## A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on multi interconnection board.

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. MULTI INTERCONNECTION BOARD.**

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

“	9902.01.00	Other electrical apparatus; Multi interconnection printed board using single layer, high density 15kV insulated cop- per wires controlling imped- ance ( $Z_0$ ) up to $\pm 5\%$ , having pattern width $\pm$ / $-0.003$ mm and current ca- pacity of 5A (provided for in subheading 8536.90.80) .....	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2011	”.
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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.

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