

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6924

To provide for the modification of duties on environmental goods.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

Mr. HERGER (for himself and Mr. BRADY of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To provide for the modification of duties on environmental goods.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Green Export En-
5 hancement Act” or “GREEN Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Trade liberalization is among the vital ac-
9 tions that can be taken to facilitate efforts to protect
10 the environment and halt climate change by pro-

1 viding greater access to climate-friendly goods and
2 technologies, particularly in developing countries.

3 (2) Promoting trade in environmental goods
4 complements and supports the objectives of the
5 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate
6 Change and contributes to the goal of United States
7 and foreign trade officials in ensuring that climate
8 change mitigation and trade liberalization are con-
9 ducted in a mutually supportive manner.

10 (3) According to a recent study conducted by
11 the World Bank, entitled “International Trade and
12 Climate Change: Economic, Legal, and Institutional
13 Perspectives”, the removal of tariffs and nontariff
14 barriers to key environmental technologies could in-
15 crease trade in these technologies by an additional 7
16 to 14 percent annually.

17 (4) Reducing or eliminating tariffs on environ-
18 mental goods, where reciprocal duty reductions or
19 elimination has been achieved for such goods as a
20 result of negotiations in the World Trade Organiza-
21 tion, will make a significant and real contribution to
22 furthering global environmental and climate change
23 objectives.

1 **SEC. 3. ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS TARIFF AUTHORITY.**

2 (a) PROCLAMATION AUTHORITY.—Subject to the
3 consultation and layover requirements of section 115 of
4 the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3524),
5 the President may proclaim the modification of any duty
6 or staged rate reduction of any duty in Schedule XX on
7 environmental goods, as defined in a multilateral negotia-
8 tion for the reciprocal elimination, reduction, or harmoni-
9 zation of duties under the auspices of the World Trade
10 Organization, if the United States agrees to such modi-
11 fication or staged rate reduction in such a multilateral ne-
12 gotiation.

13 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Sched-
14 uled XX” has the meaning given that term in section 2(5)
15 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C.
16 3501(5)).

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