



Association of Food Industries, Inc.

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November 25, 2009

Senate Finance Committee
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510
ATTN: MTB
Email: mtb2009@finance-dem.senate.gov
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Via: Email & Fax

Re: Senate Miscellaneous Tariff Bills: S. 2019, S. 2020, S. 2021, S. 2022, S. 2023, S. 2141, S. 2242, S. 2273, S. 2244

Dear Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Grassley:

Following your request on November 2, 2009 for public comments on the MTB process, the Association of Food Industries wishes to express its support for S. 2019, S. 2020, S. 2021, S. 2022, S. 2023, S. 2141, S. 2142, S. 2273, and S. 2244. These nine bills will extend the current duty reductions and suspensions for different food products including pepperoncini, capers, giardineira, prepared artichokes and oysters, as well as a new duty suspension for sardines.

The Association of Food Industries is a trade association of more than 800 companies around the world involved in the U.S. food import business, including nearly 400 domestic companies. AFI members are responsible for the imports of a majority of the items listed above and similar items.

The current economic situation makes it imperative for these bills to be approved in Congress. More than ever, customers of AFI members will continue expecting high-quality products at affordable prices. Approval of these miscellaneous tariff bills will ensure their expectations are fulfilled.

Sincerely,

Bob Bauer
President
bobbauer@afi.us.org