



December 4, 2009

Senate Finance Committee  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC, 20510  
ATTN: MTB  
Email: [mtb2009@finance-dem.senate.gov](mailto:mtb2009@finance-dem.senate.gov)  
Fax: (202) 228-0567

**VIA FAX AND EMAIL**

**Dear Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Grassley:**

Following the committee's request for public comment on bills to be included in the miscellaneous tariff bill process introduced in the Senate during the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, CAMELBAK Products LLC, wishes to express strong support for **S. 2231, S. 2232, S. 2265, S. 2266, and S. 2275**. These bills relate to certain hydration systems comprised of a reservoir, tube/bite valve interface delivery system and carrier.

CAMELBAK employs over 100 employees in the State of California, between our Petaluma headquarters and distribution center in San Diego. Our plastic and polyurethane components are sourced in Corona, CA, and our silicone bite valves in Riverside, CA. Other U.S. components of the complete hydration system are manufactured in Minnesota, Tennessee, Rhode Island, New York, and Missouri.

CAMELBAK is unaware of any U.S. company that currently manufactures a commercially available full hydration system (other than those made for Department of Defense contracts that are required to comply with the Berry Amendment).

Hydration systems are classified in several different places within the Harmonized Tariff Schedule and duties range from 7 percent to 17.6 percent. Such duties unnecessarily increase CAMELBAK's costs, which must be passed on to all consumers, including those purchases made on behalf of the U.S. Government by the Government Services Administration (GSA).

Inclusion of these bills in the final MTB package will benefit other importers of this class of product, in addition to CAMELBAK. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. I stand ready to provide additional information or answer any questions that you or your staff may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Frame', written over a white background.

Jason Frame  
CFO  
CAMELBAK Products, LLC  
e-mail: [jframe@camelbak.com](mailto:jframe@camelbak.com)  
phone: 707-796-9208