



December 1, 2009

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Fax: (202) 228-0567

Via: Email & Fax

Senate Finance Committee
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510
ATTN: MTB

Re: Senate Miscellaneous Tariff Bill: S. 2360

Dear Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Grassley:

Per your Committee's request on November 2, 2009, I am writing on behalf of Freudenberg Nonwovens LP to express support for S. 2360.

Freudenberg Nonwovens is the U.S. division of the Freudenberg Group that designs, markets and sells the flame retardant mattress barrier products described in the bill. Freudenberg Nonwovens was not only one of the first companies to introduce nonwovens to the market, but is the largest and most diverse manufacturer of nonwovens in the world today. Freudenberg employs approximately 322 people in Ohio and 574 people in Georgia. In addition, Freudenberg has facilities and employees in California, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin.

S. 2360 will suspend the duty on imports of our unique fire retardant, layered, needle-punched fabric that is used in the manufacture of mattresses in the United States. The largest users of the product are Original Mattress in Cleveland, OH, and in Marietta, GA. Additionally, the product is used by mattress manufacturers in Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Washington.

The reduction in cost associated with the duty suspension will make Freudenberg Nonwovens and our customers more competitive. The current economic situation makes it imperative for Congress to approve this bill. At present, we and our customers face aggressive off-shore competition with access to lower cost raw materials. This duty suspension will enable us and our customers to maintain competitive production and will allow us to continue to provide our customers with high quality products at affordable prices.

This duty suspension on certain fire retardant material used in domestic mattress production is of great importance to Freudenberg Nonwovens and we appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 919-620-3969.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John McNabb".

John McNabb
Vice President / General Manager

Freudenberg Nonwovens LP
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