



December 1, 2009

Senator Max Baucus
Chairman
Senate Finance Committee
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Attention: MTB

Re: Comments in Support of Duty Suspension Bill;
S. 2523: Certain Electric Cooktops

Dear Chairman Baucus,

In accordance with the November 2, 2009 press release of the Senate Finance Committee, we are submitting the following comments in support of S. 2523, introduced by Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker, to temporarily suspend the duty on imports of certain electric cooktops, measuring between 66 and 91.44 centimeters in width and 10.3 and 20.9 kilograms in weight. Electrolux Home Products, Inc. ("Electrolux") imports these cooktop units to supplement the full line of cooktops manufactured at its Springfield, TN facility, which currently employs 2,500 people. The imported cooktops are used in the production of finished kitchen units in the United States. These products are classifiable in HTSUS 8516.60.60 and are currently dutiable at a rate of 2.7% *ad valorem*.

Electrolux is not aware of any U.S. manufacturers of these products and no direct substitute that is commercially available in the United States. The normal duty on these cooktops does not protect any domestic producer or industry, and the current regular tariff rate (2.7% *ad valorem*) does not benefit any member of the home appliance industry. Consequently, continued imposition of the regular tariff serves only to increase unnecessarily costs to our U.S. consumers.

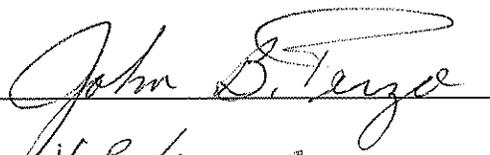
In light of recent economic conditions, a duty suspension for these products will help keep these costs from being passed on to consumers and preserve jobs at our Tennessee facility. We have calculated the revenue impact of the proposed suspension to be less than \$500,000 per year. We are aware of no domestic opposition to this proposal. Therefore, the bill should be treated as non-controversial for purposes of the Committee's consideration of miscellaneous tariff legislation.

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Electrolux North America, including Electrolux Home Products, Inc. (major appliances), Electrolux Home Care Products, Inc. (floor care) and Electrolux Professional, Inc., employ approximately 9,500 people across the U.S., including 2,500 people at our Springfield, Tennessee manufacturing site. Our Company's U.S. manufacture of cooktops is complemented by imports of sizes which cannot be produced in the U.S. and which make a broader range of Electrolux products available to consumers. A temporary suspension of the tariff on imports of these cooktops will allow our Company to continue to increase profitability and maintain competitiveness in the international market. This, in turn, will help control costs to consumers of home appliances and support the 9,500 jobs which Electrolux provides in the United States.

For the above reasons, we strongly support the duty suspension proposed in the above-referenced bill. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,


V.P. / G.M. COOKING BUSINESS