

# GITMAN & CO. / I. A. G.

November 24, 2009

Honorable Max Baucus  
Chairman  
Senate Finance Committee  
219 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
RE: S. 2532

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am the Chief Executive Officer of Gitman Brothers Shirt Company, where we actually manufacture the World's finest shirts right here in the United States in Ashland, Pennsylvania. We've been making them here for over sixty years and I'm writing you today to ask for your support on S. 2532, a bill to extend existing duty suspensions on certain cotton shirting fabrics and duty refund program.

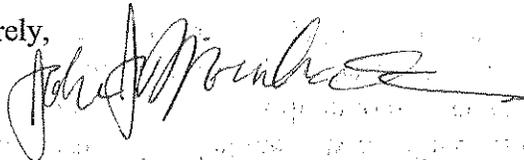
This program has without doubt saved many American jobs. A very large customer moved all production to China in 2008, but as a result of this program we were able to create new customers, particularly in a new export program of our products. We continue to manufacture in America.

It is worth noting that the duty relief requested is on cloth that is not produced in the United States anyway so there is nothing to protect with duty. Further, Canada has extended their duty relief, allowing them to import these cloths and then ship into the United States all duty free. This gives an unfair advantage to Canada as well as many other countries that export to the United States duty free.

As Congress considers extending programs that provide duty free status to shirts made in foreign countries, it would be most unfair to leave domestic manufacturers in a situation where duties are reinstated.

We all know that good American jobs are easy to lose and hard to get back. Please help us keep these jobs by supporting domestic shirt makers in S. 2532.

Sincerely,



John Minahan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Gitman Brothers Shirts

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