

*Brooks Brothers*

Garland, NC

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02 December 09

The Honorable Max Baucus  
Chairman  
Senate Finance Committee  
219 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Senate Finance Committee  
219 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

RE: S. 2532

Dear Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am writing today to indicate our support for S. 2532, a bill to extend the existing temporary duty suspensions on certain cotton shirting fabrics and the duty refund program.

I would like to share with you the reasons for our support of this bill:

We have 200 employees working in the BROOKS BROTHERS – Garland, North Carolina facility. We are a Union shop, and the only domestic supplier of BROOKS BROTHERS shirts. Working with several State of North Carolina agencies, we have started a re-engineering program to reduce costs and create a World Class manufacturing facility capable of competing globally and positioning this plant to not only retain jobs, but generate new jobs for our domestic workers. If we are required to pay the duty on the fabrics needed for our production, it will eliminate the savings that we are striving to achieve and place us in a non-competitive position. We have no protection from manufacturers from other countries, because our trade programs allow them to Import their foreign made Dress Shirts to the USA Duty Free. There are no domestic manufacturers of the fabrics that we use that are subject to the duty suspensions. Canada has already established and extended comparable duty remission programs.

To save the jobs we have, and allow us the opportunity to create jobs in the future, the people that support you, now need you to support them by supporting S. 2532.

Yours in Trust,



Dan R. Teel  
Manager  
910.529.1811

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