
SIGMA CORPORATION of America

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December 4, 2009

To: Honorable Senator Max Baucus
Honorable Senator Chuck Grassley
Honorable Senator Chuck Schumer, Bill Sponsor

From: SIGMA Corporation of America
15 Fleetwood Court
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Subject: Temporary suspension of duty on lightweight digital camera lenses
Bill S. 2610
Bill S. 2611
Bill S. 2612

Dear Senators:

I would like to take this opportunity to express our strong objection to the proposed suspension of duty on specific digital camera lenses.

SIGMA is a world leading manufacturer of photographic products such as lenses, flashes and digital cameras. We have provided the highest quality products and value to consumers for more than 40 years. All of our products are designed and manufactured in Japan, and are available worldwide through various SIGMA sales, service and distribution subsidiaries. SIGMA is a privately owned company.

Our objection arises from the fact that Nikon, Inc. has requested a temporary suspension of duty on specific digital camera lenses on the following bills:

S.2610: lenses designed for digital cameras with a focal length measuring approximately 10mm or more and not over 24mm and weighing between 455 and 465 grams.

S.2611: lenses designed for digital cameras with a focal length measuring approximately 55mm or more and not over 200mm and weighing between 329 and 339 grams.

S.2612: lenses designed for digital cameras with a focal length measuring approximately 70mm or more and not over 200mm and weighing between 1,535 and 1,545 grams.

It is clear, from the very specific limitation on focal length and weights of lenses, these bills will only apply to specific Nikon products. This bill would give Nikon the capability to reduce prices and would not give consumers the benefit of fair pricing competitiveness from other manufacturers such as SIGMA. This will provide an unfair final cost advantage to Nikon, Inc. and make similar SIGMA products at a less advantageous price point to consumers.

We hope that the honorable senators will see this as an unfair and biased bill which does not provide consumers with better choice and value.

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Please let me know if we can provide further information.

Sincerely,

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