



Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-6200

Re: S. 1283

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to you on behalf of ASICS America, Inc., of Irvine, CA, an importer and distributor of various types of footwear and apparel. ASICS directly employs over 200 people and distributes footwear and apparel to dozens of distributors nationwide. Over time, ASICS has demonstrated a consistent pattern of growth by offering a quality footwear product which is of increasing value to the end customer, which has resulted in increased direct employment of Americans.

The current duties imposed on the type of shoes covered by this Senate bill does not serve to protect any domestic industry. In fact, the current duties add to the cost paid by the American consumer for these types of shoes. The enactment of this bill will assist ASICS, its distributors and their retail outlets in keeping prices affordable in what has continued to be a difficult economy.

In summary, ASICS strongly supports the passage of the Senate bill referred to above.

Very truly yours,

By: *Richard Bourne* Date: 12-4-09  
Richard Bourne  
President & COO  
ASICS America, Inc.