

June 17, 2013

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman
Committee on Finance
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Baucus and Camp and Ranking Members Hatch and Levin:

Unless Congress acts very soon, the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program will expire on July 31, 2013 – less than 45 days from today. The 234 undersigned companies and trade associations are writing you to alert you to our concern that allowing GSP to expire would have an immediate and negative impact on American employers, who would be forced to pay \$2 million a day in new taxes. As you consider the upcoming legislative agenda, we urge you to make the renewal of the GSP program a priority before Congress adjourns for the August work period.

While its primary focus is to encourage trade to fuel development in poorer countries, GSP also supports American manufacturing by reducing costs of imported inputs, machinery and equipment, and helps American families make ends meet by lowering the costs of consumer goods imported duty free under GSP. The GSP program saved American companies nearly \$750 million in import duties in 2012. When GSP expired at the end of 2010, U.S. companies faced higher import taxes for more than 10 months. To compensate for these unexpected costs, some employers were forced to freeze salaries, eliminate benefits, delay capital investments, and even lay off workers. American businesses – particularly small businesses -- cannot afford for GSP expire again.

The GSP program enjoys strong bipartisan support in Congress. More than 300 Representatives and 70 Senators voted in favor of GSP renewal legislation in 2011. GSP renewal fits squarely on a Congressional agenda to pass legislation that benefits American families, workers, and companies. The sooner it happens, the sooner we can get back to the business of making competitive American products and providing consumers with goods at prices that do not have to cover unnecessary import taxes.

Sincerely,

Associations

American Apparel & Footwear Association	Montana Chamber of Commerce
American Association of Exporters and Importers	National Confectioners Association
Associations of Equipment Manufacturers	National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America
Association of Food Industries	National Foreign Trade Council
Brazil-U.S. Business Council, U.S. Section	National Retail Federation
Coalition for GSP	Outdoor Industry Association
Consumer Electronics Association	Recreation Vehicle Industry Association
Fashion Jewelry & Accessories Trade Association	Retail Industry Leaders Association
Footwear Distributors & Retailers of America	Sports & Fitness Industry Association
International Wood Products Association	U.S. Association of Importers of Textiles & Apparel
	U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Companies

3KA Stone Co. (Houston, TX)	Atco Rubber Products Inc. (Fort Worth, TX)
A & J Distributors, Inc. (Elk Grove Village, IL)	Atlantis Pak USA, Inc. (Coral Gables, FL)
A & T Tobacco Imports Inc. (East Dundee, IL)	Atlas Sound (Ennis, TX)
A.S. Mill Products, Inc. (Red Bank, NJ)	Axis Chemical (Long Beach, CA)
Acacia Creations (York, PA)	BarrierSafe Solutions International, Inc. (Lake Forest, IL)
Acme International, Inc. (Clifton, NJ)	Beasley International Company LLC (Memphis, TN)
Acme Sponge & Chamois Company (Tarpon Springs, FL)	Berger Company (Atchison, KS)
Adrienne Designs (Fountain Valley, CA)	Besa Lighting Co., Inc. (Blacklick, OH)
Advanced Marketing Intl (Wilmington, NC)	Betty Belts (Ventura, CA)
Aid Through Trade, Inc. (Annapolis, MD)	Beximco USA Ltd (Suwanee, GA)
Allied Fitting LP (Houston, TX)	Bossard North America Inc. (Cedar Falls, IA)
Alstom, Inc. (Washington, DC)	Botticelli Foods (Hauppauge, NY)
Altray Company, Inc. (Stamford, CT)	BP Industries Inc. (Ontario, CA)
American eChem, Inc. (Lufkin, TX)	Bridgestone (Nashville, TN)
American Omni Trading (Houston, TX)	Calsak Plastics (Chino Hills, CA)
American Pacific Industries, Inc. (Valencia, CA)	CAMELBAK Products, LLC (Petaluma, CA)
Andre Prost, Inc. (Old Saybrook, CT)	Campo Nuevo/Artesania Sorata (Berkeley, CA)
Argo Fine Imports (Metairie, LA)	Canton Chem, Inc. (Clarksville, MD)
Ari's Wholesale LLC (Santa Fe Springs, CA)	Carbon Resources, LLC (Oceanside, CA)
Art's Elegance Inc. (Pasadena, CA)	Carnival Usa LLC (North Miami Beach, FL)
Asara Foods, LLC (Hauppauge, NY)	

Carroll Companies, Inc. (Boone, NC)
 Catawba Leather LLC (Hickory, NC)
 Caterpillar (Peoria, IL)
 Cello North America (Roswell, GA)
 Charity USA (Seattle, WA)
 Charles Sadek Import Co Inc. (New Rochelle, NY)
 CHO America (Baytown, TX)
 Circa Corporation of America (San Francisco, CA)
 City Buddha (Cleveland Heights, OH)
 Claire's Stores (Hoffman Estates, IL)
 Claris USA, Inc. (Azusa, CA)
 CN Wire Corporation (Norwalk, CT)
 The Coca-Cola Company (Atlanta, GA)
 Complete Framer's Supply, Inc. (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
 Con-Tech International (New Orleans, LA)
 Concorde Specialty Gases, Inc. (Eatontown, NJ)
 CorrPak Bulk Packaging Systems (Monroe, LA)
 Couplamatic Systems Inc. (Scottsbluff, NE)
 Crate & Barrel (Northbrook, IL)
 Cummins Inc. (Columbus, IN)
 Decotone Surfaces (Garwood, NJ)
 Deringer-Ney Inc. (Vernon Hills, IL)
 Dole Packaged Foods LLC (Westlake Village, CA)
 The Dow Chemical Company (Midland, MI)
 Dsenyo, LLC (Lafayette, CO)
 Eaton (Cleveland, OH)
 Eco-Brazil Corp (New York, NY)
 Empire State Supply Corp. (Brooklyn, NY)
 Energizer Battery Manufacturing, Inc. (St. Louis, MO)
 Essel Propack America, LLC (Danville, VA)
 Eucatex NA (Alpharetta, GA)
 Euroleather, Inc. (Newton, NC)
 Evergreen Plastic Container Inc. (Portland, OR)
 Excell Services LLC (Raleigh, NC)
 EXEDY Globalparts Corp. (Belleville, MI)
 Fahy Leather (Pacific Palisades, CA)
 Fair and Square Imports (McKinney, TX)
 Far East American, Inc. (Playa del Ray, CA)
 FAZ Marketing (Houston, TX)
 Felt Bicycles (Irvine, CA)
 Fitec International (Memphis, TN)
 Fleet Packaging, Inc. (South Orange, NJ)
 Fusion Gourmet (Gardena, CA)
 Gallagher Tire, Inc. (Levittown, PA)
 Ganesh Himal Trading (Spokane, WA)
 General Electric (Fairfield, CT)
 Genesis Products, Inc. (Elkhart, IN)
 Georgian American Alloys, Inc. (Miami, FL)
 Global Amici (San Diego, CA)
 Global Chemcorp, LLC (Charlotte, NC)
 Global Fair Trade Crafts, Inc. (Edgewater, FL)
 Global Green USA Ltd. (Ramsey, NJ)
 Global Handmade Hope (Chicago, IL)
 Glove Branders (Dallas, TX)
 Gold Coast Promotions (Palm Harbor, FL)
 Golden Beach Inc. (Torrance, CA)
 Halsted Corporation (Jersey City, NJ)
 Handmade Expressions (Austin, TX)
 Handy International Incorporated (Salisbury, MD)
 Hardware Renaissance (Santa Fe, NM)
 Henry W Peabody & Co., Inc. (Lynnfield, MA)
 Hiblow USA (Saline, MI)
 Hollander Sleep Products, LLC (Boca Raton, FL)
 The Home Depot (Atlanta, GA)
 Hosford international, Inc. (Erie, PA)
 Hostmann Steinberg Inc. (Kankakee, IL)
 Hunter Chemical LLC (Fort Washington, PA)
 Imerys (Roswell, GA)
 International Dunnage, LLC (Thunderbolt, GA)
 International Duru's (Northridge, CA)
 J. A. Kirsch Corp. (Teaneck, NJ)
 Jamtown, LLC (Seattle, WA)
 JBH Intertrade (Garden City, NY)
 Jelly Belly Candy Company (Fairfield, CA)
 JTEKT Automotive (Vonore, TN)

Kalalou Inc. (Jackson, MS)
 Kekepana International Services
 (Honolulu, HI)
 Kona Bicycle Company (Ferndale, WA)
 KOUBOU (South Laguna, CA)
 Legacy Sports International (Reno, NV)
 Leila's Home Living (New York, NY)
 Lewis Trading Corp (Springfield, NJ)
 Lipper International Inc. (Wallingford, CT)
 Lumber Liquidators (Toano, VA)
 Merco Tape (Hillburn, NY)
 Metal Exchange Corporation (St. Louis, MO)
 Meyer Aluminium Blanks, Inc. (Sheboygan
 Falls, WI)
 Miami Chemical (Miami, FL)
 Michaels Stores, Inc. (Irving, TX)
 Michelin North America (Greenville, SC)
 Michex International Inc. (Houston, TX)
 Midas Chain Inc. (Bergenfield, NJ)
 Mitek Corporation (Monroe, WI)
 MS International Inc. (Orange, CA)
 Mullican Flooring (Johnson City, TN)
 NAECO, LLC (Peachtree City, GA)
 NAPA Rayloc (Atlanta, GA)
 NEPCO International (Richmond, TX)
 New England Foil Inc. (Greenfield, MA)
 Nina Designs (Emeryville, CA)
 Norca Industrial LLC (Great Neck, NY)
 Novita (Monrovia, CA)
 Omni-United (Interlochen, MI)
 Oppenheimer Chocolates (Brooklyn, NY)
 Oxan Inc. (Wayne, NJ)
 Pacific Silverworks (Ventura, CA)
 Panasonic Corporation of North America
 (Secaucus, NJ)
 Patrick Industries (Elkhart, IN)
 PB Leiner USA (Davenport, IA)
 Peachtree Playthings (Roswell, GA)
 Phillips Foods (Baltimore, MD)
 Plastic Solutions, Inc. (Newtown, PA)
 Precision Replacement Parts (Weston, WI)
 Preferred Brands International
 (Stamford, CT)
 Prochimie International, Inc. (Windsor, CT)
 Quality Gold, Inc. (Fairfield, OH)
 Quantum Mfg. (Kent, OH)
 R.P. Associates, LLC (Jefferson, LA)
 Red Mountain Trading Co. (Denver, CO)
 Reko Enterprises, Inc. (Boston, MA)
 Relics Imports (Asheville, NC)
 Roland Corporation US (Los Angeles, CA)
 Roman & Sunstone (Saint Louis, MO)
 Ron-Son Foods Inc. (Swedesboro, NJ)
 Royal Tropics Inc. (McCall, ID)
 S.I. Partners, Inc. (Hicksville, NY)
 S&V Industries (Fairlawn, OH)
 Sierra Systems (Oakland, CA)
 SIGMA Corporation (Cream Ridge, NJ)
 The Silk Road Market (New Wilmington, PA)
 Soul Jewelry (Los Angeles, CA)
 South Florida Gold, Inc. (Miami, FL)
 Specialty Commodities Inc. (Fargo, ND)
 Stewart Floor LLC (Chicago, IL)
 Sumitomo Electric Wintec America, Inc.
 (Edmonton, KY)
 Sumitomo Electric Wiring Systems, Inc.
 (Bowling Green, KY)
 Swahili Imports, Inc. (Eugene, OR)
 Swede-O, Inc. (North Branch, MN)
 Swing Design (Concord, MA)
 Swiss Pacific Resources Inc. (Hilliard, OH)
 SWITCH Lighting (San Jose, CA)
 Ten Strawberry Street (Denver, CO)
 Tesoros Foods Co. (Las Vegas, NV)
 TG Missouri Corporation (Perryville, MO)
 The Cannon Group Inc. (Westerville, OH)
 The Safety Zone LLC (Centerbrook, CT)
 The Whistler Group, Inc. (Bentonville, AR)
 Torter Corporation (Montville, NJ)
 Trade Innovations, Inc. (Eden Prairie, MN)
 Transnational Foods, Inc. (Miami, FL)
 Transpacific Foods, Inc. (Irvine, CA)
 Traxys North America LLC (New York, NY)
 Trimaco, LLC (Morrisville, NC)
 Trinidad Benham Corporation (Denver, CO)
 TRInternational, Inc. (Seattle, WA)
 Tumac (Portland, OR)
 Turk International LLC (Aptos, CA)

United Mineral and Chemical Corporation
(Lyndhurst, NJ)
Universal Arquati Moulding (Santa
Clarita, CA)
Vee Rubber America, Inc. (Atlanta, GA)
Vintage Leather (Lewisville, TX)
Von Roll USA, Inc. (Schenectady, NY)
Vortex Optics (Middleton, WI)
Voxx Products (Torrance, CA)
Wanderlust Imports, Inc. (Fort Lupton, CO)

WEG Electric Corp (Duluth, GA)
West Coast Trading & Imports
(Hayward, CA)
WorldFinds (Westmont, IL)
Xena International (St. Charles, IL)
Xpres, LLC (Winston-Salem, NC)
Yamaha Corporation of America (Buena
Park, CA)
Zschimmer & Schwarz (Milledgeville, GA)