



Key Vote
YES ON HR 4380

July 21, 2010

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) - the national trade association of the apparel and footwear industries and their suppliers - I am writing to advise you that AAFA has key voted as a YES VOTE House consideration of HR 4380, the U.S. Manufacturing Enhancement Act.

I strongly urge you to vote YES on this important legislation.

Crafted through a very transparent process, the U.S. Manufacturing Enhancement Act contain hundreds of provisions that extend tariff relief for goods, materials, and other inputs that are no longer made in the United States. About four dozen of the provisions will directly benefit the U.S. textile, apparel, and footwear industries, their workers, and their consumers.

These provisions are critical for U.S. based manufacturers. In many cases, the provisions will reduce or eliminate tariffs on inputs needed by U.S. manufacturers. In other cases, the tariff relief is on a finished product that contains U.S. manufactured inputs. In both cases, the tariff relief enables U.S. companies to produce globally competitive products that are then sold in the United States or exported.

As we work to meet the goal of doubling exports during the next five years, legislation such as the U.S. Manufacturing Enhancement Act is sorely needed to help reach that goal.

Moreover, the legislation was crafted through a long and transparent process that involved multiple reviews and comment periods initiated by both chambers of Congress, the Commerce Department, and the U.S. International Trade Commission. Only those measures found to be non controversial were included in the final package.

I urge you to VOTE YES on HR 4380 to help keep U.S. companies, and their workers, globally competitive.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Burke
President and CEO