

**February 29, 2016**

Lisa R. Barton  
Secretary  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20436

Post-Hearing Brief Regarding for USITC Hearing on Investigation No. 332-556,  
Generalized System of Preferences: Possible Modifications, 2015 Review

Dear Secretary Barton:

The undersigned organizations are writing to express strong support for adding **all** eligible travel goods articles to the list of products that may be imported duty-free from **all** Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) beneficiary countries.

Designating these travel goods – articles like backpacks, purses, and luggage – as eligible under the GSP program for all countries creates the maximum benefit for the United States and the developing world.

Our members have advised that the widest possible GSP designations would enable them to lower duty costs, which will, in turn, enable them to create and support U.S. jobs, lower prices to benefit U.S. consumers, and/or spur innovation in these articles.

There is virtually no production of these items in the United States and, as such, there will be no domestic industry that will be negatively affected by the proposed designation. On the other hand, U.S. brands, private label designers, made-to-order producers, as well as the U.S. workers they employ and the consumers they serve, stand to benefit greatly from lower duty costs under the GSP.

Further, because most travel goods sold in the United States are imported from just one country, designating these articles as eligible for the full range of GSP countries would diversify sourcing, leading to job creation in communities throughout the developing world.

We urge that all statutorily-eligible travel goods be designated for all GSP eligible countries.

Sincerely,

American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)  
American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI)

Coalition of New England Companies for Trade  
Columbia River Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association  
Customs Brokers & International Freight Forwarders of Washington State  
Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of Northern California  
Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT)  
Express Association of America (EAA)  
Fashion Accessory Shippers Association (FASA)  
Gemini Shippers Association  
Los Angeles Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association  
National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC)  
National Retail Federation (NRF)  
Outdoor Industry Association (OIA)  
Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association  
Promotional Products Association International (PPAI)  
Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)  
San Diego Customs Brokers Association  
Sports & Fitness Industry Association  
Toy Industry Association (TIA)  
Travel Goods Association (TGA)  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
U.S. Fashion Industry Association (USFIA)