

## TARIFF COMMISSION TO MAKE ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION UNDER SECTION 332 OF TARIFF ACT OF 1930, OF DOMESTIC FLUORSPAR INDUSTRY

AUGUST 19 (legislative day, AUGUST 18), 1959.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. BYRD of Virginia, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany S. Res. 163]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the resolution (S. Res. 163) requesting the U.S. Tariff Commission to make an additional investigation, under section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930, of the domestic fluorspar industry, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the resolution do pass.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of Senate Resolution 163 is to direct the U.S. Tariff Commission to make an investigation under section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930, of the domestic fluorspar industry, and to report its findings to the Congress on or before February 29, 1960.

#### GENERAL STATEMENT

On August 14, 1954, the Finance Committee directed the Tariff Commission to make an investigation under section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930, of the fluorspar industry. This report was filed with the committee on June 6, 1955, and the committee, by letter on June 27, 1955, requested certain additional specific supplemental information which was provided on July 22, 1955.

The committee then, on July 29, 1955, directed that the Tariff Commission make an investigation of the domestic fluorspar industry under section 7 of the Trade Agreements Act. The Commission reported the results of this investigation to the President on January 18, 1956, concerning fluorspar containing more than 97 percent of calcium fluoride. This high-grade fluorspar is dutiable at a much

lower rate than the lower grades, an anomaly seldom found in the tariff act.

The Department of the Interior suggested legislation providing for the acquisition of domestic acid grade (containing more than 97 percent of calcium fluoride) fluorspar and Congress enacted Public Law 733 providing for the purchase of 250,000 tons for the defense stockpile. This purchase program terminated on December 31, 1958, and, according to estimates by the Department of the Interior the domestic production of fluorspar in 1959 can be expected to decline by as much as 50 percent. The bulk of domestic consumption is already supplied by imports.

Senate Resolution 163 would direct the Tariff Commission to make a further investigation along the lines of the earlier study made pursuant to section 332 of the tariff act, including specific findings with regard to the current condition of the fluorspar mining industry and as to what additional import restrictions, if any, need to be imposed upon articles dutiable under paragraph 207 of the Tariff Act of 1930.

The committee urges the passage of the resolution.

