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AUTOMATIC STEADY STATE DISTRIBUTION MACHINE FOR UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

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Mr. LONG of Louisiana, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 7608]

The Committee on Finance to which was referred the bill (H.R.7608) to provide for the free entry of one automatic steady state distribution machine for the use of the University of Oklahoma, having considered the same, reports favorable thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of H.R. 7608 is to allow the University of Oklahoma to import free of duty a scientific instrument for its own use.

GENERAL STATEMENT

H.R. 7608 would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to admit free of duty one automatic steady state distribution machine for the use of the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla., and provides for reliquidation of the customs entry and appropriate refund of duty in the event that liquidation of the entry has become final and duty paid.

The machine for which free entry is provided for by the bill was manufactured in England and purchased by the university with the aid of a matching fund grant from the National Science Foundation. The machine separates, extracts, and concentrates chemical compounds out of complex mixtures. It can be used for analysis in determining exceedingly low amounts of impurities as well as for isolation and purification of mixtures. The machine was imported through the port of New York and was covered by New York consumption entry No. 844735 made in November 1964.

Your committee is advised that no comparable machine in terms of capacity, automaticity, or efficiency is made in the United States. The Department of Commerce has stated with respect to this bill:

> After careful consideration, the Department is of the opinion that at the time the University of Oklahoma determined its requirements and specifications for an automatic steady state distribution machine, no instrument of equivalent scientific value was available from domestic producers of this instrument.
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> The device purchased by the university is used in basic research on chemical solvents and is designed to separate various elements from chemical solutes. The instrument is manufactured by the British firm of Quickfit & Quarta Co., Ltd. and is completely automatic and enables the operator to program up to 100 cycles.
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> Further, it lends itself to variable programing from large quantities of solvents to very minute traces. The device is extremely sensitive to all loads and under all operating conditions. No counterpart to the British design is available from domestic sources.

In the circumstances the Committee on Finance, like the Committee on Ways and Means of the House, is of the opinion that this legislation is meritorious and consistent with prior legislatiou of this nature, and recommends its enactment.

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