

MASS SPECTROMETER FOR POMONA COLLEGE

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

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 1386]

The Committee on Finance, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 1386) to provide for the free entry on one mass spectrometer for the use of Pomona College, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of H.R. 1386 is to allow Pomona College, Claremont, Calif., to import free of duty a scientific instrument for its own use.

GENERAL STATEMENT

H.R. 1386 would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to admit free of duty a mass spectrometer for the use of Pomona College, Claremont, Calif.

A mass spectrometer is a device used by chemists and chemical engineers to provide chemical analyses, measurements, and other research features. They are ordinarily built to specifications to meet particular requirements of the user. In the use of a mass spectrometer, the material to be studied is subjected to an ionizing process after which the ions formed are physically separated according to mass by electromagnetic means so that a mass spectrum is produced.

The instrument covered by the bill was entered at Los Angeles, Calif., in January 1965 under consumption entry No. 246066.

Your committee is advised that no comparable instrument made in the United States is available. The Department of Commerce has stated with respect to this bill:

After careful investigation, the Department is of the opinion that at the time Pomona College determined its requirements and specifications for a mass spectrometer, no instrument of equivalent scientific value was available from domestic producers of this instrument.

The imported instrument is superior to domestically produced mass spectrometers in capacity, resolution, and versatility. It will permit the study of molecules of greater molecular weight with a higher degree of identification, and it will allow conversion to different fields of investigation without additional instrumentation.

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 legislation of this nature and recommends its enactment.

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