
MASS SPECTROMETER FOR ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY

OCTOBER 16, 1965.—Ordered to be printed
Filed under authority of the order of the Senate of October 15, 1965

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

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 4832]

The Committee on Finance, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 4832) to provide for the free entry of a mass spectrometer for the use of St. Louis University, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of H.R. 4832 is to allow St. Louis University to import free of duty a scientific instrument for its own use.

GENERAL STATEMENT

H.R. 4832 would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to admit free of duty a mass spectrometer for the use of St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo.

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.

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 consideration, the Department is of the opinion that at the time St. Louis University determined its requirements and specifications for a mass spectrometer, no instrument of equivalent

scientific value was available from domestic producers of this instrument.

The instrument purchased by St. Louis University is a noncommercial device, which was designed by Dr. R. Ryhage of Sweden, and is being produced in that country according to Dr. Ryhage's specifications. This is a highly specialized instrument, designed for biochemical research, which combines the functions of a mass spectrometer and a gas chromatograph in a single integrated apparatus. No counterpart of the Ryhage design is available from domestic sources.

In the circumstances, your 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.

