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2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 1742

AMENDING THE TARIFF ACT OF 1930 TO PROVIDE FOR EXEMPTION
FROM DUTY OF CERTAIN SOUND RECORDINGS IMPORTED BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

MAY 25 (legislative day, MARCH 29), 1950.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. GEORGE, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 3545]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3545) to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to provide for exemption from duty of certain sound recordings imported by the Department of State, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments, and recommend that the bill do pass.

The committee amendments: Insert "(a)" after "Par. 1628" in line 3 and insert "at end of paragraph" after the word "adding" in line 4.

EXPLANATION OF BILL

The Department of State in conducting the international information program authorized in the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (Public Law 402, 80th Cong.) finds that recordings transcribed abroad are becoming increasingly valuable as a part of the regular short-wave broadcasts directed from the United States to other countries. These recordings include such items as special materials produced for the Voice of America by foreign networks, special events such as the Salzburg Musical Festival, activities of the Economic Cooperation Administration in foreign countries, addresses by American representatives abroad, and other similar items which are of peculiar interest to our foreign listeners.

The exemption from customs restrictions of articles such as phonograph records, transcriptions, wire and tape recordings, and sound tracks on film imported for use in the international information program will relieve or simplify certain administrative and entrance requirements thereby expediting delivery of the material, much of which is of a timely nature.

This bill was introduced at the request of the State Department. The Treasury Department, United States Tariff Commission, and

the Bureau of the Budget have no objection to the passage of this legislation.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law shown in left column, changes in existing law in the right column):

TITLE II—FREE LIST

SEC. 201. That on and after the day following the passage of this Act, except as otherwise specially provided for in this Act, the articles mentioned in the following paragraphs, when imported into the United States or into any of its possessions (except the Philippine Islands, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the island of Guam), shall be exempt from duty:

* * * * *
Par. 1628. Books, engravings, photographs, etchings, bound or unbound, maps, and charts imported by the authority or for the use of the United States or for the use of the Library of Congress.

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* * * * *
Par. 1628. (a) Books, engravings, photographs, etchings, bound or unbound, maps, and charts imported by the authority or for the use of the United States or for the use of the Library of Congress.

(b) Sound recordings imported by the Department of State for use in the program authorized by the United States Information and Education Exchange Act of 1948 (Public Law 402, Eightieth Congress).

