

BAMBOO PIPESTEMS

AUGUST 25 (legislative day, AUGUST 24), 1960.—Ordered to be printed

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

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 10841]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 10841) to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to place bamboo pipestems on the free list, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of H.R. 10841 is to make free of duty bamboo pipestems in whatever condition of manufacture and whether bored or unbored, when imported from other than Communist-dominated countries.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Bamboo pipestems are currently classified for duty purposes under paragraph 1552 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended. That paragraph states:

Mouthpieces for pipes, or for cigar and cigarette holders of whatever material composed, and in whatever condition of manufacture, whether wholly or partly finished, or whether bored or unbored.

These items were originally dutiable at the rate of 5 cents each plus 60 percent ad valorem. As a result of trade-agreement concessions, this rate has been reduced to 1 cent each and 15 percent ad valorem.

H.R. 10841 would provide for the free importation of bamboo pipestems only, and it provides further that the free importation would apply only to pipestems produced in other than Communist-controlled countries. Those originating in Communist-controlled areas would continue to be dutiable at the original rate of duty provided for in the tariff act.

Bamboo pipestems are used principally on corncob pipes. Present tariffs on bamboo stems prohibit their use in the manufacture of corncob pipes because of the low average unit retail selling price for corncob pipes.

No objection to the passage of the bill has been made known, including the Government departments.

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 are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets; new matter is printed in italic; existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

TARIFF ACT OF 1930

TITLE II—FREE LIST

SECTION 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 Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Wake Island, Midway Islands, Kingman Reef, Johnston Island, and the island of Guam), shall be exempt from duty:

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PAR. 1824. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, bamboo pipe stems, in whatever condition of manufacture, whether wholly or partly finished, or whether bored or unbored. This paragraph shall not apply to products of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or of any nation or area dominated or controlled by the foreign government or foreign organization controlling the world Communist movement, as determined by the President pursuant to section 5 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951.

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