

Calendar No. 1058

86TH CONGRESS }
2d Session }

SENATE }

REPORT
No. 1020

FREE IMPORTATION OF GROUND, POWDERED, OR GRANULATED SEAWEEDS

JANUARY 13, 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. 5887]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 5887) to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to place ground, powdered, or granulated seaweeds on the free list, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The bill H.R. 5887 would amend the Tariff Act of 1930 by placing seaweeds, ground, powdered, or granulated, on the free list.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Ground, powdered, or granulated kelp is presently free of duty under paragraph 1705 of the Tariff Act. Other ground, powdered, or granulated seaweeds are dutiable under paragraph 1540 at the rate of 5 percent ad valorem. Crudo or unmanufactured seaweeds now enter free of duty under paragraph 1722 of the free list. The bill would provide for the free importation of all ground, powdered, or granulated seaweed as well as kelp.

The type of seaweed that would be affected most by this change in dutiable status is of the Irish moss variety, used primarily by domestic processors who produce a powdered extractive used in foods and other products as a jelling, thickening, or demulcent agent. Ground, powdered, or granulated seaweed is the raw material used by these domestic processors. Seaweed processed beyond granulating, grinding, or powdering, would not be affected by the terms of this bill.

No opposition to this bill has been encountered. Favorable reports have been made by the Departments of State, Treasury, Commerce, and Labor.

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 italics; existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

TITLE I—DUTIABLE LIST

PAR. 1540. Moss and sea grass, eelgrass, and seaweeds, if manufactured or dyed, (*except as provided in paragraph 1722*) 10 per centum ad valorem.

TITLE II—FREE LIST

PAR. 1722. Moss, seaweeds, and vegetable substances, crude or unmanufactured, not specially provided for; *and seaweeds not further manufactured than ground, powdered, or granulated.*

