



Northern Textile Association

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May 7, 2002

Committee on Ways and Means
Allison Giles, Chief of Staff
U.S. House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Giles,

Please accept our comments in support of H.R. 4449 and H.R. 4450 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Sincerely,

Karl Spilhaus
President
Northern Textile Association

May 7, 2002

Mr. James Leonard
Deputy Assistant Secretary
U.S. Dept. of Commerce
OTEXA
Herbert Hoover Bldg., Room 3100
14th St. & Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Leonard:

On behalf of the Northern Textile Association, a non-profit organization made up of companies who process fiber, make yarn and fabric, and dye, print, and finish fabrics, I write in support of H.R. 4449 and H.R. 4450.

Our members include domestic U.S. manufacturers of fabrics of carded and combed wool and fine animal hair. Our members import yarn of combed cashmere and of combed camel hair, as there are no domestic U.S. producers of these yarns. In a report to Congress in March 2002, in connection with a so-called "short-supply petition", the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements "determined that yarn of combed cashmere, cashmere blends, or camel hair, classified in subheading 5108.20.60 of the HTSUS, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner." Therefore, there should be no opposition to H.R. 4449.

Our members also import very fine yarns of carded cashmere. NTA has contacted all commercial domestic U.S. producers of carded cashmere yarn and determined that no domestic manufacturer of carded cashmere yarn currently produces, or has plans to produce, yarn of 6 run or finer. Therefore we expect no opposition to H.R. 4450.

Sincerely yours,

Karl Spilhaus
President

Cc: Maria D'Andrea
Kimberly Freund, U.S.I.T.C.

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