

Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
1104 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

To Whom It May Concern:

Late last week I was made aware of MTB HR 5633 and wanted to express by objection to the bill. I realize that the time for comment closed on June 22 but was hoping you could still try to get my comments in the public record?

My name is Michael Korchmar I am the 3rd generation owner and operator of my families 95-year-old manufacturing company, The Leather Specialty Company, and also serve on ITAC 13. We still own and operate factories that produce custom bags and travel goods made from textile, vinyl, plastic

and leather materials in the USA and in The Dominican Republic. We employ over 300 people and, based off of the descriptions provided, feel we are very capable of manufacturing the products listed in this bill and have the capacity to produce this article for which temporary duty free status is being requested. We believe we could produce domestically in our Naples, Florida plant or in our DR facility. (Items produced in our DR facility would already be eligible for duty free status under DR-CAFTA)

I can assure you that maintaining a US and Western Hemisphere manufacturing presence and the jobs so related has been extremely difficult over the last few decades and the last thing we domestic manufacturers need is our Government provided duty free status on products we can produce. If companies are claiming

that the products cannot be purchased domestically they are either simply not looking very hard or are unwilling to pay to have these items made outside of Asia.

Passing HR 5633 will most certainly adversely impact my company and our employees and we would ask that you communicate our objections.

Many thanks in advance for any help you can lend.

Sincerely,

Michael Korchmar
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Company
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