



**Statement by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association  
to the House Ways and Means Committee Supporting  
Duty Suspension Bills on Certain Inflatable Balls  
(H.R. 4713)**

**June 22, 2012**

This statement is submitted by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA) in connection with the Ways and Means Committee's request for public comment regarding certain miscellaneous tariff measures introduced in the House during the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress. SGMA wishes to express its strong support for this bill to extend the existing duty suspension on rubber basketballs (H.R. 4713).

SGMA represents over 500 manufacturers, retailers and marketers in the sports products industry, including the following companies engaged in manufacture and sale of the subject basketballs:

adidas America  
Baden Sports Inc.  
Brine  
Champion  
Champro\*  
Escalade Sports\*  
Franklin Sports, Inc.  
Gamemaster Athletics  
Markwort Sporting Goods Company  
Mikasa Sports USA  
Mizuno USA Inc.  
Molten USA Inc.  
Nike, Inc.

Olympia Sports  
Rawlings Sporting Goods  
Reebok Sports Inc.  
Regent Sports Corp.  
School-Tech  
Spalding  
Sport Supply Group  
Sportime International  
Tachikara USA, Inc.  
Under Armour  
UniSource Global Solutions  
Wilson Sporting Goods Company

\*non-member

SGMA members have over 3,000 business centers, plants and distribution centers that employ more than 375,000 people in the United States. The sporting goods industry generates more than \$77 billion in U.S. wholesale revenue annually and \$15 billion internationally.

Introduced on April 25 by Rep. Brett Guthrie (KY) and Richard Neal (MA), H.R. 4713 would extend the existing duty suspension provision on rubber basketballs through December 31, 2015

There is no known U.S. production of the article covered by this bill and there has been no opposition to it. The bill's product scope has been defined to ensure that it meets budgetary thresholds and to ensure that it does not become a loophole for a broader classes of articles.

We appreciate this opportunity to share SGMA's views with the Ways and Means Committee. Please feel free to contact us if Committee staff has any questions regarding SGMA's support for this important duty suspension bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Sells". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font. The "B" is large and loops around the "i", and the "S" is also large and loops around the "e". The "l" is tall and thin, and the "s" is a simple cursive flourish.

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