June 21, 2012

The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Camp and Ranking Member Levin:

On behalf of Oakley, I would like to express our support for HR 4872 as part of the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill process. This bill will temporarily reduce duties on certain polarized lens wafers used for the manufacturing of sunglasses in the United States.

Oakley, founded in 1975, has a presence in over 100 countries, and is an established market leader in performance apparel and accessories, eyewear, footwear, watches and electronics. At its manufacturing facility located in Foothill Ranch, California, Oakley employs 1,776 people, providing an important source of jobs.

The polarized lens wafers covered by this bill are an essential input we use to manufacture our sun protective eyewear at our U.S. facility. The wafer is not manufactured in the United States and the technology used to make it is critical to our ability to produce the quality product for which Oakley is renowned.

Once the bill is vetted through the interagency process, we strongly urge the U.S. Congress to swiftly pass the MTB. Successful passage of MTB legislation will allow Oakley to save on input costs and preserve manufacturing at its California facility.

Best Regards,

Colin Baden
Chief Executive Officer

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