



June 22, 2012

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The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman, House Ways & Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 205015

Dear Chairman Camp:

On behalf of the Celanese Corporation, I am writing to express strong support for the miscellaneous tariff bill (MTB) process in general, and to inform you of our specific support for HR 5311.

Celanese is a major domestic manufacturer of specialty materials and chemical products that employs more than 3,200 workers in eight states. Celanese is often forced to import certain chemicals and resins as inputs for further processing that simply are not available from U.S. suppliers. As such, we depend on the MTB to help eliminate or reduce duties on a limited number of items that we must import and that do not compete with any other domestic producer. The MTB process allows us to reduce our production costs and helps our U.S. manufacturing facilities to remain globally competitive.

HR 5311 would temporarily reduce the U.S. import duty on potassium sorbate. Potassium sorbate is a chemical additive used in dairy, baked goods, and beverage industries as bacterial inhibitors.

Noting that there are no domestic producers of potassium sorbate, Celanese incurs added costs in the form of duties paid on this input. This increased cost impacts our ability to maintain the U.S. jobs that are involved in the processing and sale of potassium sorbate. For this reason, we greatly appreciate your efforts to secure passage of an MTB package prior to the end of this year.

Thank you for your consideration of our views in this matter and please let me know if you have any specific questions related to our support of HR 5311.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. McArver", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Robert D. McArver
Vice President, Global Public Affairs