



H.R. 6504, *Haiti Economic Lift Program Extension Act* **Rep. Murphy (R-NC)**

Background:

- Haiti receives U.S. trade preferences for textile and apparel products through several trade programs, including the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, the **Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement (HOPE) Act**, and the **Haiti Economic Lift Program (HELP) Act**.
 - The HELP Act was passed by Congress in 2010 after a devastating earthquake in Haiti and expanded the scope of Haitian exports eligible for access to the U.S. market.
- **The HOPE and HELP programs lapsed on September 30, following a 10-year renewal in 2015.**
- **An extended lapse in these programs could jeopardize Haiti's apparel manufacturing industry's ability to stay in Haiti, exacerbating the current political instability** in the country, the poorest in the Western Hemisphere. Further, a worsening economic situation in Haiti could lead to increased migration from Haiti and increased security concerns in the U.S.
- Many U.S. companies rely on the HOPE/HELP programs to source apparel from Haiti. **These supply chains are anchored in the Western Hemisphere, so apparel sourced from Haiti contains significantly more U.S. content, especially cotton.**

H.R. XXXX, *Haiti Economic Lift Program Extension Act*:

- **Renews duty-free treatment provided with respect to certain imports from Haiti under the HOPE/HELP programs for 3 years, until December 31, 2028.**
- Also includes a technical update to ensure that the product coverage of this program is not inadvertently modified when periodic changes are made to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.
- Renewal of these programs **supports nearshoring and reshoring goals** and does not impact the Trump Administration's tariff program—only the statutory tariff schedule that is set by Congress.