

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

October 24, 2006

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The Honorable Daniel R. Pearson
Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20436

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Ways and Means Committee is interested in information related to the competitiveness of the domestic industry producing certain performance outerwear pants, performance jackets, and travel goods of textile materials. Accordingly, on behalf of the Ways and Means Committee, I am writing to request that the U.S. International Trade Commission conduct an investigation under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)) to provide information to the Committee related to these domestic industries. Specifically, to the extent possible, the investigation should provide data for 2005 and 2006 on the level of U.S. production and shipments of the following:

certain performance outerwear pants and jackets and the fabrics used to make such pants and jackets; and,

certain travel goods with an outer surface of textile materials and the textile materials used to make such goods.

The Commission should submit two separate reports under this investigation, and should, within the above descriptions, define the products that it is covering in each report. The first report, covering certain performance outerwear pants and jackets and fabrics used to make such pants and jackets, should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than 9 months following receipt of this letter. The second report, covering the travel goods and textile materials to make such goods, should be submitted no later than 12 months following the receipt of this letter.

The Commission's assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Bill Thomas
Chairman