
Coalition for Enforcement of Antidumping And Countervailing Duty Orders

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. House of Representatives Resolution Supports Effective Enforcement of Trade Laws, Including Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders

Recognizes the harm done to injured U.S. companies, industries, and American workers

WASHINGTON, D.C. (September 30, 2010) -- Representatives Roy Blunt, Spencer Bachus, Sam Graves, Jo Ann Emerson, Todd Akin, and Blaine Luetkemeyer introduced House Resolution 1681 yesterday, supporting effective enforcement of United States trade laws. The resolution noted the blatant and widespread schemes of some unscrupulous foreign producers and certain complicit U.S. importers to engage in transshipment, document fraud, and false descriptions of imported merchandise subject to antidumping and countervailing duty orders. These serious violations of U.S. law must be stopped in order to ensure that lawfully-owed duties are paid to the government, to protect consumers, and to remedy harm to injured U.S. companies, industries, and American workers.

The non-binding resolution:

- recognizes the critical roles played by the Department of Commerce and U.S. Customs and Border Protection in administering and enforcing U.S. trade laws;
- supports aggressive and effective enforcement of U.S. trade laws in order to protect U.S. revenue and consumers, and to remedy harm to injured U.S. companies, industries, and American workers; and
- encourages our international trading partners to take prompt action to ensure that foreign companies exporting to the U.S. respect and abide by all requirements of U.S. trade laws, including antidumping and countervailing duty orders.

The Coalition for Enforcement of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders praised the resolution.

“We thank Representatives Blunt, Bachus, Graves, Emerson, Akin, and Luetkemeyer for recognizing that illegal duty evasion schemes are a major problem that affects all Americans,” said Milton Magnus, CEO of M&B Metal Products in Leeds, Alabama, and spokesperson for the Coalition. “These schemes not only injure our domestic industries, but they cause the loss of good-paying jobs and cost the U.S. Treasury well over a hundred million dollars in uncollected duties each year.”

In August, legislation was introduced in the U.S. Senate to address illegal evasion of antidumping and countervailing duty orders by importers and their foreign suppliers who systematically violate our trade laws. The Enforcing Orders and Reducing Circumvention and Evasion (ENFORCE) Act of 2010 would give important new tools to the Commerce and Customs to combat these illegal schemes to evade duties imposed by the government to combat unfair trade practices.

The Coalition for Enforcement of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders consists of the following companies: Mid Continent Nail (Poplar Bluff, Missouri), M&B Metal Products (Leeds, Alabama), Vulcan Threaded Products (Pelham, Alabama), Leggett & Platt, Incorporated (Carthage, Missouri), American Spring Wire Company (Bedford Heights, Ohio), Insteel Industries (Mt. Airy, North Carolina), John Maneely Company (Beachwood, Ohio), Geo Specialty Chemicals (Lafayette, Indiana) and SSW Holding Company (Elizabethtown, Kentucky). These companies are American manufacturers of various products that are impacted by these illegal schemes.

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CONTACTS:

The Coalition:

Wendy Watson
Associate General Counsel
Leggett & Platt, Incorporated
(417) 358-8131, ext. 2441

Fahlgren Mortine Public Relations:

Patrick Gallagher
Phone: (216) 298-4617
Cell: (216) 233-7473
Email: pat.gallagher@fahlgren.com

Allen Pfenninger
Phone: (216) 298-4653
Cell: (216) 544-4455
Email: allen.pfenninger@fahlgren.com