

[S. 2618, 90th Cong., 1st sess. Introduced by Mr. Ribicoff, Nov. 2, 1967.]

A BILL To provide for orderly trade in scissors and shears

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Orderly Scissors and Shears Marketing Act of 1967".*

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are to promote equitable competition between United States and foreign producers of scissors and shears, to provide for orderly trade in scissors and shears and to afford foreign nations supplying scissors and shears a fair share of the growth or change in the United States market.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.—As used in this Act—

(a) "category" shall include all articles designated under item numbers 650.87, 650.89, 650.91, 651.11, and 651.13 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States Annotated (1965), as amended.

(b) "scissors and shears" shall include all those articles specified in section 3(a) of this Act.

(c) "United States consumption" of scissors and shears for a given calendar year shall equal the sum of the United States shipments and imports of scissors and shears during such year, less the quantity of United States exports of scissors and shears for such year.

SEC. 4. The President is authorized and directed to undertake negotiations with other governments for the purpose of consummating agreements to provide orderly trade in scissors and shears, including the quantitative limitation of imports of all such articles into the United States. Such agreements shall limit the annual importation of scissors and shears in each category to the average share of the United States consumption in each category supplied by imported scissors and shears during a representative historical period of not less than three calendar years prior to the year 1967, as determined by the President. Such representative historical period shall be the same for all countries and all categories of scissors and shears. The President shall have full authority to determine the share of total imports in any category of scissors and shears which may be supplied by any country to the United States on the basis of historical patterns of such imports, the interests of developing countries, and such other factors affecting trade in such categories as he deems appropriate.

SEC. 5. After one hundred and eighty days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the total quantity of imports in each category of scissors and shears not subject to an agreement or agreements negotiated pursuant to section 4 or to proclamations issued under section 5 shall be limited by category as follows:

(a) During the balance of the year in which this section becomes effective, the total quantity of any such scissors and shears which may be entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption shall be equal to that proportionate share of the average annual imports of scissors and shears for the years 1962-1966 which the number of days remaining in the calendar year bears to three hundred and sixty-five.

(b) Beginning with the calendar year following the year in which this Act becomes effective, the total quantity of any such scissors and shears which may be entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, in that year and each succeeding calendar year, shall be equal to the average annual quantity of such articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption during the given calendar years 1962-1966, *Provided, however*, That the total quantity of such scissors and shears in any category shall be increased or decreased in each succeeding calendar year by a percentage corresponding to the percentage increase or decrease (if more than 5 per centum) in the United States consumption in such category in such calendar year compared with the year previous thereto, except that the amount of such increase in any category which may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during any calendar year shall not exceed 10 per centum of the amount of such increase in United States consumption of such category.

(c) The President shall have full authority to determine the share of imports in any category which may be supplied by any country to the United States on the basis of historical patterns of such imports, the interests of developing countries, and such other factors affecting trade as he deems appropriate.

SEC. 6. The President may issue such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.