

FAIR INTERNATIONAL TRADE ACT

This is a bill that has now been introduced by 25 Congressmen to provide for regulation of imports in all industries. The bill provides for investigation and hearings by the Tariff Commission after filing of a petition for an import ceiling, such filing is open to a national labor union, industry, Senate Finance Committee, House Ways and Means, or request of the President. After investigation by the Tariff Commission if imports related to domestic consumption meet the criteria of the bill they certify a ceiling on imports to the President, the import ceiling is proclaimed by the President; if imports penetrate the ceiling proclaimed in any six-month period, a quantity limitation is invoked by the President.

There is considerable interest in this bill by industry, congressmen, and labor unions. We have collaborated on the bill and been successful in getting many introductions by congressmen who like the concept of a broad-base bill as opposed to specific industry bills. This is a real opportunity to help obtain passage of a bill which would prevent rising imports from displacing our employment and employment potential. The Chairman of Ways and Means, Wilbur Mills, is interested in this bill and suggested we get Congressman Herlong to introduce it which he did May 1, 1968. Following this introduction we have been able to get multiple introductions by the following Congressmen: Herlong, Fla. (16936), Utt, Calif. Collier, Ill., Perkins, Ky., Staggers, W. Va., Hechler, W. Va., Moore, W. Va., Dent, Pa. (17043), Whalley, Pa., Clark, Pa., Saylor, Pa., Ashbrook, Ohio, Thomson, Wis., Otkonski, Wis., Fisher, Texas, Philbin, Mass., Hunt, N. J., Langen, Minn., Pelley, Wash., Baring, Nev., Barry, S. Dak., Harrison, Wyo., Lennon, No. Car., Kornegay, No. Car., Keith, Mass.