

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5184

To amend section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 with respect to requirements for domestic industries, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

Ms. DELBENE (for herself and Mr. SCHWEIKERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 with respect to requirements for domestic industries, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Advancing America’s
5 Interests Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is to ensure that the re-
8 sources of the United States International Trade Commis-
9 sion are focused on protecting genuine domestic industries

1 and to safeguard the public health and welfare and the
2 United States economy (including competitive conditions).

3 **SEC. 3. UNFAIR PRACTICES IN IMPORT TRADE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 337 of the Tariff Act of
5 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337) is amended as follows:

6 (1) Subsection (a) is amended—

7 (A) in paragraph (3)—

8 (i) by striking “or” at the end of sub-
9 paragraph (B);

10 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
11 “engineering, research and development, or
12 licensing.” and inserting “engineering and
13 research and development; or”; and

14 (iii) by adding after subparagraph (C)
15 the following:

16 “(D) substantial investment in licensing activi-
17 ties that leads to the adoption and development of
18 articles that incorporate the patent, copyright, trade-
19 mark, mask work, or design.”;

20 (B) by redesignating paragraph (4) as
21 paragraph (5); and

22 (C) by inserting after paragraph (3) the
23 following:

24 “(4) For purposes of paragraph (3), the complainant
25 may not rely upon activities by its licensees unless the li-

1 cense leads to the adoption and development of articles
2 that incorporate the claimed patent, copyright, trademark,
3 mask work, or design for sale in the United States.”.

4 (2) Subsection (b) is amended—

5 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting after
6 the first sentence the following: “For a com-
7 plaint under oath, a person may be relied upon
8 to qualify as an industry under subsection
9 (a)(2) only if the person joins the complaint
10 under oath, except that nothing in this sentence
11 shall be construed to compel such a person to
12 join the complaint.”; and

13 (B) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(4)(A) The Commission shall identify, at the begin-
15 ning of an investigation, whether the investigation pre-
16 sents a dispositive issue appropriate for an expedited fact
17 finding and an abbreviated hearing limited to that issue,
18 and shall direct the assigned administrative law judge to
19 issue an initial determination on such issue not later than
20 100 days after the investigation is instituted.

21 “(B) Any initial determination by the assigned ad-
22 ministrative law judge under subparagraph (A) shall stay
23 the investigation pending Commission action.”.

24 (3) Subsection (c) is amended—

1 (A) by striking the first sentence and in-
2 serting the following: “(1) The Commission
3 shall determine, with respect to each investiga-
4 tion conducted by it under this section, whether
5 or not there is a violation of this section, except
6 that the Commission—

7 “(A) may, by issuing a consent order or on the
8 basis of an agreement between the private parties to
9 the investigation, including an agreement to present
10 the matter for arbitration, terminate any such inves-
11 tigation, in whole or in part, without making such
12 a determination; or

13 “(B) may determine during the course of the
14 investigation that the exclusion of articles under in-
15 vestigation would not be in the interest of the public,
16 after considering the nature of the articles concerned
17 and the effect of such exclusion upon the public
18 health and welfare, the United States economy (in-
19 cluding competitive conditions), the production of
20 like or directly competitive articles by the complain-
21 ant and its licensees, and United States consumers,
22 and terminate any such investigation, in whole or in
23 part, without making any further determination.”;

1 (B) in the second sentence, by striking
2 “Each determination” and inserting the fol-
3 lowing:

4 “(2) Each determination”;

5 (C) by striking “its findings on the public
6 health and welfare, competitive conditions in
7 the United States economy,” and inserting “its
8 findings on the public health and welfare, the
9 United States economy (including competitive
10 conditions),”; and

11 (D) by inserting “by the complainant and
12 its licensees” after “the production of like or di-
13 rectly competitive articles in the United
14 States”.

15 (4) Subsection (d)(1) is amended by striking
16 the first sentence and inserting the following: “(1)
17 If the Commission determines, as a result of an in-
18 vestigation under this section, that there is both (A)
19 a violation of this section and (B) exclusion of the
20 articles concerned is in the interest of the public,
21 after considering the nature of the articles concerned
22 and the effect of such exclusion upon the public
23 health and welfare, the United States economy (in-
24 cluding competitive conditions), the production of
25 like or directly competitive articles in the United

1 States by complainant and its licensees, and United
2 States consumers, then the Commission shall direct
3 that the articles concerned that are imported by any
4 person violating the provisions of this section be ex-
5 cluded from entry into the United States.”.

6 (5) Subsection (e)(1) is amended by striking
7 the first sentence and inserting the following: “If,
8 during the course of an investigation under this sec-
9 tion, the Commission determines that there is reason
10 to believe that there is a violation of this section and
11 that exclusion of the articles concerned would be in
12 the interest of the public, the Commission may di-
13 rect that the articles concerned that are imported by
14 any person with respect to whom there is reason to
15 believe that such person is violating this section be
16 excluded from entry into the United States, after
17 considering the nature of the articles concerned and
18 the effect of such exclusion upon the public health
19 and welfare, the United States economy (including
20 competitive conditions), the production of like or di-
21 rectly competitive articles in the United States by
22 the complainant and its licensees, and United States
23 consumers.”.

24 (6) Subsection (f)(1) is amended by striking the
25 first sentence and inserting the following: “In addi-

1 tion to, or in lieu of, taking action under subsection
2 (d) or (e), the Commission may issue and cause to
3 be served on any person violating this section, or be-
4 lieved to be violating this section, as the case may
5 be, an order directing such person to cease and de-
6 sist from engaging in the unfair methods or acts in-
7 volved, after considering the nature of the articles
8 concerned and the effect of such order upon the pub-
9 lic health and welfare, the United States economy
10 (including competitive conditions), the production of
11 like or directly competitive articles in the United
12 States by complainant and its licensees and United
13 States consumers.”.

14 (7) Subsection (g)(1) is amended by amending
15 the matter following subparagraph (E) to read as
16 follows:

17 “the Commission shall presume the facts alleged in the
18 complaint to be true and shall, upon request, issue an ex-
19 clusion from entry or a cease and desist order, or both,
20 limited to that person, after considering the nature of the
21 articles concerned and the effect of such exclusion or order
22 upon the public health and welfare, the United States
23 economy (including competitive conditions), the produc-
24 tion of like or directly competitive articles in the United

1 States by the complainant and its licensees and United
2 States consumers.”.

3 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
4 subsection (a) shall apply to complaints filed under section
5 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 on or after the date of the
6 enactment of this Act.

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