

News Release

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NCTO Applauds Rep. Robin Hayes for Working with the Textile Industry to Enact Long Term Chinese Restraints

Hayes Calls on USTR to Enact Textile Agreement with China

Washington DC) Earlier today, NCTO responded to a request from U.S. Representative Robin Hayes regarding initiatives that could be undertaken to combat China and protect textile jobs. We applaud Rep. Hayes for his interest in this issue and note that a long term textile and apparel agreement with China is a top industry priority.

NCTO in its response stated:

“The first essential step is a comprehensive textile agreement with China that keeps Chinese exports under quota control. This agreement must include tight limits on sensitive textile and apparel products and it must extend until the end of 2008, when the current safeguard mechanism expires. The agreement must cover not only products where safeguard decisions have occurred or are pending but also other categories where China is having a disruptive impact on the U.S. market. In addition, U.S. companies and their workers must not be penalized with higher quotas for categories that are not currently under restraint but which will need to be covered under the agreement. And the industry must also retain the ability to file safeguard cases if China begins to surge in categories that are not covered by the agreement.”

China's textile and apparel imports into the U.S. market have surged as much as 1,500 percent since quotas were removed at the beginning of the year. Congressman Hayes is now working to address a vital component of our strategy by urging the Administration to put China under longer term restraint. NCTO thanks Rep. Hayes for his support of the U.S. textile industry and its workers.

***NCTO letter attached. (PDF)**