

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2475

To amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to prohibit imports of articles produced or manufactured with bonded child labor, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 15, 1997

Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. EVANS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. STARK, Mr. FILNER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MANTON, and Mrs. MALONEY of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to prohibit imports of articles produced or manufactured with bonded child labor, 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 “Bonded Child Labor
5 Elimination Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON IMPORTS OF ARTICLES PRO-**
2 **DUCTIONED OR MANUFACTURED WITH BONDED**
3 **CHILD LABOR.**

4 Section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C.
5 1307) is amended—

6 (1) in the first paragraph—

7 (A) in the first sentence by inserting “or/
8 and bonded child labor” after “under penal
9 sanctions”; and

10 (B) in the second sentence by striking “;
11 but in no case” and all that follows through the
12 end of the sentence and inserting the following:
13 “. The President may waive the application of
14 this section with respect to particular goods,
15 wares, articles, or merchandise, if the President
16 determines and certifies in writing to the Con-
17 gress that it is in the national economic interest
18 of the United States to allow the entry into the
19 United States of such goods, wares, articles, or
20 merchandise.”; and

21 (2) by adding at the end the following new
22 paragraph:

23 “Bonded child labor,” as herein used, shall mean all
24 work or service—

25 “(1) which is exacted from any person under 15
26 years of age, either in payment for the debts of a

1 parent, relative, or guardian or drawn under false
2 pretexts; and

3 “(2) to which such person is confined against
4 his or her will.”.

5 **SEC. 3. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FOR ENFORCEMENT OF**
6 **BONDED CHILD LABOR LAWS AND REHABILI-**
7 **TATION.**

8 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In order
9 to offer assistance to foreign countries to improve the en-
10 forcement of national laws prohibiting bonded child labor
11 and to contribute to the rehabilitation of children freed
12 from bonded child labor, there is authorized to be appro-
13 priated to the President the sum of—

14 (1) \$100,000 for each of the fiscal years 1998
15 through 2002 for a United States contribution to
16 the United Nations Commission on Human Rights
17 for those activities relating to bonded child labor
18 that are carried out by the Subcommittee and Work-
19 ing Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery; and

20 (2) \$1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1998
21 through 2002 for a United States contribution to
22 the International Labor Organization for the activi-
23 ties of the International Program on the Elimination
24 of Child Labor.

1 (b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
2 “bonded child labor” has the meaning given that term in
3 section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended by sec-
4 tion 2 of this Act.

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