

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4976

To amend the Trade Act of 1974 to reform the Generalized System of Preferences to better protect United States workers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 8, 2020

Mr. HAWLEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Trade Act of 1974 to reform the Generalized System of Preferences to better protect United States workers.

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 “Trade Preference Re-
5 form and Worker Protection Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROVISION OF DUTY-FREE TREATMENT UNDER**
 2 **GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES**
 3 **ONLY DURING PERIODS OF LOW UNEMPLOY-**
 4 **MENT IN THE UNITED STATES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505 of the Trade Act of
 6 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2465) is amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 505. DUTY-FREE TREATMENT PROVIDED ONLY DUR-**
 8 **ING PERIODS OF LOW UNEMPLOYMENT IN**
 9 **THE UNITED STATES.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide duty-
 11 free treatment under this title only if the monthly season-
 12 ally adjusted unemployment rate in the United States, as
 13 determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the De-
 14 partment of Labor, has been less than 4 percent, on aver-
 15 age, during the preceding 6-month period.

16 “(b) SUSPENSION.—Not later than 30 days after the
 17 unemployment rate increases to a level higher than the
 18 level described in subsection (a), the President shall sus-
 19 pend the provision of duty-free treatment under this title
 20 until the unemployment rate decreases to the level de-
 21 scribed in subsection (a).”.

22 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
 23 for the Trade Act of 1974 is amended by striking the item
 24 relating to section 505 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 505. Duty-free treatment provided only during periods of low unemploy-
 ment in the United States.”.

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 2 this section take effect on the date that is 30 days after
 3 the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 **SEC. 3. INELIGIBILITY OF COUNTRIES THAT USE FORCED**
 5 **LABOR FOR GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREF-**
 6 **ERENCES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 502(b)(2) of the Trade
 8 Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2462(b)(2)) is amended—

9 (1) by inserting after subparagraph (H) the fol-
 10 lowing:

11 “(I) Such country is identified by the Bu-
 12 reau of International Labor Affairs of the De-
 13 partment of Labor pursuant to section
 14 105(b)(2)(C) of the Trafficking Victims Protec-
 15 tion Reauthorization Act of 2005 (22 U.S.C.
 16 7112(b)(2)(C)) as a source country of goods
 17 that are believed to be produced by forced labor
 18 or child labor in violation of international
 19 standards.”; and

20 (2) in the flush text at the end, by striking
 21 “(F), (G), and (H)” and inserting “and (F)”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 23 subsection (a) apply with respect to articles entered on

1 or after the date that is 30 days after the date of the
2 enactment of this Act.

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