

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3022

To amend subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to repeal increases in duty and a tariff-rate quota on certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 7, 2018

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. HELLER) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to repeal increases in duty and a tariff-rate quota on certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, 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 “Protecting American
5 Solar Jobs Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF INCREASES IN DUTY AND A TARIFF-**
2 **RATE QUOTA ON CERTAIN CRYSTALLINE SIL-**
3 **ICON PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

5 (1) According to the National Solar Jobs Cen-
6 sus, the solar workforce has increased by 168 per-
7 cent in the past 7 years, from about 93,000 jobs in
8 2010 to more than 250,000 jobs in 2017.

9 (2) More than 80 percent of solar jobs in the
10 United States are in the installation, sales, distribu-
11 tion, and project development sectors, all of which
12 heavily depend on the availability of affordable solar
13 panels.

14 (3) In 2016, solar was the single largest source
15 of new electric generating capacity in the United
16 States, and solar photovoltaic installers were the
17 fastest growing occupation.

18 (4) According to the Solar Energy Industries
19 Association, the 30-percent tariff on imported solar
20 cells and panels will cause the loss of about 23,000
21 United States jobs in 2018, as well as the delay or
22 cancellation of billions of dollars of investments in
23 solar energy.

24 (5) According to GTM Research, that tariff will
25 cause a net reduction of around 11 percent in
26 United States solar installations from 2018 to 2022,

1 reducing installations from an estimated 68.9
2 gigawatts to 61.3 gigawatts during the next 5 years.

3 (b) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 99 of
4 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
5 amended—

6 (1) by striking U.S. Note 18; and

7 (2) by striking—

8 (A) subheadings 9903.45.21 and
9 9903.45.22, and the superior text to such sub-
10 headings; and

11 (B) subheading 9903.45.25.

12 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by
14 this section shall take effect as of February 7, 2018.

15 (2) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION FOR CERTAIN
16 LIQUIDATIONS AND RELIQUIDATIONS.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sec-
18 tion 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C.
19 1514) or any other provision of law and subject
20 to subparagraph (B), any entry of an article
21 classified under subheading 9903.45.21,
22 9903.45.22, or 9903.45.25 of the Harmonized
23 Tariff Schedule of the United States, that—

24 (i) was made—

25 (I) after February 7, 2018; and

1 (II) before the date of the enact-
2 ment of this Act; and

3 (ii) to which a lower rate of duty
4 would be applicable if the entry were made
5 after such date of enactment,

6 shall be liquidated or reliquidated as though
7 such entry occurred on such date of enactment.

8 (B) REQUESTS.—A liquidation or reliqui-
9 dation may be made under subparagraph (A)
10 with respect to an entry only if a request there-
11 for is filed with U.S. Customs and Border Pro-
12 tection not later than 180 days after the date
13 of the enactment of this Act that contains suffi-
14 cient information to enable U.S. Customs and
15 Border Protection—

16 (i) to locate the entry; or

17 (ii) to reconstruct the entry if it can-
18 not be located.

19 (C) PAYMENT OF AMOUNTS OWED.—Any
20 amounts owed by the United States pursuant to
21 the liquidation or reliquidation of an entry of
22 an article under subparagraph (A) shall be
23 paid, without interest, not later than 90 days

- 1 after the date of the liquidation or reliquidation
- 2 (as the case may be).

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