



Broad Support for MTB Process

Recently, Congress began its process for the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB) in order to boost the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers by lowering the cost of imported inputs that are not produced in the United States. Action on the MTB will lower costs for these employers by providing tax relief. The MTB package passed in the prior Congress was [estimated](#) to support 90,000 American jobs and expand U.S. GDP by \$3.5 billion. Because of the range of economic benefits it provides to the U.S. economy, the MTB enjoys broad support:

[American Apparel & Footwear Association:](#)

“First, we see this as an exercise in good government as Congress carries out its authorities under Article I Section 8 of the Constitution while giving individual stakeholders multiple chances to petition government, in advance of their First Amendment rights. Second, we know that the MTB means U.S. jobs, often in the manufacturing sector. By reducing or suspending duties on certain imports that are not found in the United States, the MTB lowers costs for U.S. companies that depend on those imports for their competitiveness. It’s that simple.”

[Americans for Tax Reform:](#)

“By reducing or eliminating duties on imports, the MTB lowers input costs for domestic manufacturers. This increases the competitiveness of American goods and puts additional savings in the pockets of consumers... It is important to remember that legislation that reduces or eliminates tariffs on imports is...market-based consumer tax relief.”

[National Association of Manufacturers:](#)

“The duty suspension is available to all importers of a particular product...The bottom line is that failure to act could needlessly raise U.S. production costs. The MTB passed by the last Congress supported an estimated 90,000 jobs. Congress needs to act now to help level the playing field, allowing manufacturers in the U.S. to compete globally.”

[American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition:](#)

“Plain and simple, the MTB is a trade bill that is a job creator for U.S. manufacturing...The MTB creates jobs because it eliminates duties on intermediate inputs that are not produced in the United States but are used by U.S. manufacturers. For the U.S. textile industry, the MTB is vital to reduce costs on inputs like certain acrylic and rayon products that are no longer made in the United States.”

[Washington Times Editorial:](#)

“These bills reduce or eliminate import duties on certain manufactured goods that can't be bought domestically. In effect, they help American companies compete better in global markets... MTBs aren't about spending money, but reducing Washington's take so that businesses can be more competitive.”

[Forbes piece authored by Dan Ikenson of the CATO Institute](#)

“Those of us who view import tariffs as distortive taxes on consumption and production tend to find merit in any effort to reduce them...[T]here are likely to be real costs to real businesses and consumers if the MTB is jettisoned because several duty suspensions are set to expire at the end of the year.”

[Politifact rates “DCCC says Allen West wants to bring earmarks back” as MOSTLY FALSE:](#)

“But the process and the particulars involved in earmarks vs. tariff breaks are very different. Earmarks direct spending; tariff bills are more like tax breaks. More importantly, the process for tariff breaks is transparent and relatively easy to track, unlike the earmarks of previous years.”

