

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1985 SESSION
RATIFIED BILL

RESOLUTION 4
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 10

A JOINT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT TO TAKE ACTION NECESSARY TO MODERATE THE GROWTH OF TEXTILE AND APPAREL IMPORTS.

Whereas, the fiber, textile and apparel industry is North Carolina's largest manufacturing employer, providing employment for more than 300,000 North Carolinians, and for more than two million Americans; and

Whereas, principally because of imports, 40 textile and apparel plants in North Carolina closed or had permanent employment layoffs totalling 7,719 people in 1984; and

Whereas, the American textile and apparel industry has spent in excess of one billion five hundred million dollars (\$1,500,000,000) annually, including five hundred fifty-two million dollars (\$552,000,000) in North Carolina during fiscal 1983-84, on new and expanded facilities and on state-of-the-art high technology equipment to retain its preeminence in productivity and quality; and

Whereas, international trade in textiles and apparel is totally distorted by foreign government subsidies, dumping, and the protection of home markets by most foreign governments; and

Whereas, United States trade laws and policies have been ineffective in moderating the growth of textiles and apparel imports or of preventing fraudulent shipments of textiles and apparel into this country; and

Whereas, imports of textiles and apparel products increased by thirty-two percent (32%) during 1984 over 1983's record import levels, totaled 9.8 billion square yards, and captured one-third of the United States market; and

Whereas, the nation's record one hundred twenty-three billion dollar (\$123,000,000,000) United States merchandise trade deficit for 1984, included a record sixteen billion dollar (\$16,000,000,000) deficit for textiles and apparel, an increase of fifty-three percent (53%) over the previous record set in 1983; and

Whereas, the economic interests of North Carolina and the United States and the nation's security require a strong and stable American textile and apparel industry;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

Section 1. The President of the United States and the Congress be encouraged to take prompt and effective action to moderate the growth of textile and apparel product imports.

Sec. 2. That a copy of this joint resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States and to each member of the United States Congress representing North Carolina.

Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 1st day of April, 1985.