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ACTION: REMARKS BY MR. D'AMATO

S. 1816—THE TEXTILE FIBER AND WOOL PRODUCTS IDENTI-FICATION IMPROVEMENT ACT

• Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today to join as a cosponsor of S. 1816, the Textile Fiber and Wool Products Identification Improvement Act. This legislation is designed to strengthen existing domestic laws relating to the country of origin labeling requirements on imported textile goods.

Currently, our laws are vague as to where the country of origin labels must be placed on an item. The Textile Fiber Products Identification Act and the Tariff Act of 1930 state that labels be attached to all products in a conspicuous manner. However, labels are often attached in the most inconspicuous places, such as the inside of a sleeve. Furthermore, there are increasing instances of foreign made items entering the United States with no label of origin, thus violating the laws.

Consumer reports show that an increasing number of Americans desire to purchase American made goods, but are faced with the problem of being unable to ascertain the country of origin. By designating that the label must be placed on the most conspicuous area on the inner side of the product, we eliminate both this confusion caused to the consumer and the violation of existing laws.