§ 1336. Equalization of costs of production

(a) Change of classification or duties

In order to put into force and effect the policy of Congress by this chapter intended, the commission
(1) upon request of the President, or
(2) upon resolution of either or both Houses of Congress, or
(3) upon its own motion, or
(4) when in the judgment of the commission there is good and sufficient reason therefor, upon
application of any interested party, shall investigate the differences in the costs of production of
any domestic article and of any like or similar foreign article. In the course of the investigation
the commission shall hold hearings and give reasonable public notice thereof, and shall afford
reasonable opportunity for parties interested to be present, to produce evidence, and to be heard at
such hearings. The commission shall report to the President the results of the investigation and its
findings with respect to such differences in costs of production. If the commission finds it shown by
the investigation that the duties expressly fixed by statute do not equalize the differences in the costs
of production of the domestic article and the like or similar foreign article when produced in the
principal competing country, the commission shall specify in its report such increases or decreases
in rates of duty expressly fixed by statute (including any necessary change in classification) as
it finds shown by the investigation to be necessary to equalize such differences. In no case shall
the total increase or decrease of such rates of duty exceed 50 per centum of the rates expressly
fixed by statute.


(c) Proclamation by the President

The President shall by proclamation approve the rates of duty and changes in classification specified in
any report of the commission under this section, if in his judgment such rates of duty and changes are
shown by such investigation of the commission to be necessary to equalize such differences in costs of
production.

(d) Effective date of rates and changes

Commencing thirty days after the date of any presidential proclamation of approval the increased or
decreased rates of duty and changes in classification specified in the report of the commission shall
take effect.

(e) Ascertainment of differences in costs of production

In ascertaining under this section the differences in costs of production, the commission shall take into
consideration, in so far as it finds it practicable:

(1) In the case of a domestic article

   (A) The cost of production as hereinafter in this section defined;
   (B) transportation costs and other costs incident to delivery to the principal market or markets
        of the United States for the article; and
   (C) other relevant factors that constitute an advantage or disadvantage in competition.

(2) In the case of a foreign article

   (A) The cost of production as hereinafter in this section defined, or, if the commission
       finds that such cost is not readily ascertainable, the commission may accept as evidence
       thereof, or as supplemental thereto, the weighted average of the invoice prices or values for
a representative period and/or the average wholesale selling price for a representative period (which price shall be that at which the article is freely offered for sale to all purchasers in the principal market or markets of the principal competing country or countries in the ordinary course of trade and in the usual wholesale quantities in such market or markets);

(B) transportation costs and other costs incident to delivery to the principal market or markets of the United States for the article;

(C) other relevant factors that constitute an advantage or disadvantage in competition, including advantages granted to the foreign producers by a government, person, partnership, corporation, or association in a foreign country.

(f) Modification of changes in duty

Any increased or decreased rate of duty or change in classification which has taken effect as above provided may be modified or terminated in the same manner and subject to the same conditions and limitations (including time of taking effect) as is provided in this section in the case of original increases, decreases, or changes.

(g) Prohibition against transfers from the free list to the dutiable list or from the dutiable list to the free list

Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize a transfer of an article from the dutiable list to the free list or from the free list to the dutiable list, nor a change in form of duty. Whenever it is provided in any paragraph of Subtitle I of this chapter, or in any amendatory act, that the duty or duties shall not exceed a specified ad valorem rate upon the articles provided for in such paragraph, no rate determined under the provisions of this section upon such articles shall exceed the maximum ad valorem rate so specified.

(h) Definitions

For the purpose of this section—

(1) The term “domestic article” means an article wholly or in part the growth or product of the United States; and the term “foreign article” means an article wholly or in part the growth or product of a foreign country.

(2) The term “United States” includes the several States and Territories and the District of Columbia.

(3) The term “foreign country” means any empire, country, dominion, colony, or protectorate, or any subdivision or subdivisions thereof (other than the United States and its possessions).

(4) The term “cost of production”, when applied with respect to either a domestic article or a foreign article, includes, for a period which is representative of conditions in production of the article:

(A) The price or cost of materials, labor costs, and other direct charges incurred in the production of the article and in the processes or methods employed in its production;

(B) the usual general expenses, including charges for depreciation or depletion which are representative of the equipment and property employed in the production of the article and charges for rent or interest which are representative of the cost of obtaining capital or instruments of production; and

(C) the cost of containers and coverings of whatever nature, and other costs, charges, and expenses incident to placing the article in condition packed ready for delivery.

(i) Rules and regulations of President

The President is authorized to make all needful rules and regulations for carrying out his functions under the provisions of this section.


(k) Investigations prior to June 17, 1930
All uncompleted investigations instituted prior to June 17, 1930, under the provisions of sections 154 to 159 ¹ of this title, including investigations in which the President has not proclaimed changes in classification or increases or decreases in rates of duty, shall be dismissed without prejudice; but the information and evidence secured by the commission in any such investigation may be given due consideration in any investigation instituted under the provisions of this section.

Footnotes

¹ See References in Text note below.

References in Text

Sections 154 to 159 of this title, referred to in subsec. (k), were repealed by section 651(a)(1) of act June 17, 1930.

Prior Provisions

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title III, § 315, 42 Stat. 941. That section was superseded by section 336 of act June 17, 1930, comprising this section, and repealed by section 651(a)(1) of the 1930 act.

Amendments

1979—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96–39, § 202(a)(2)(A), struck out subsec. (b) which related to the setting of ad valorem rates based upon the American selling price of domestic articles as would be necessary to equalize differences in the costs of production.


Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96–39, § 202(a)(2)(C), substituted “changes in classification specified in the report” for “changes in classification or in basis of value specified in the report”.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 96–39, § 202(a)(2)(C), substituted “change in classification which has taken effect” for “change in classification or in basis of value which has taken effect”.

Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 96–39, § 202(a)(2)(D), struck out subsec. (j) which authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to make necessary rules and regulations for the entry and declaration of foreign articles with respect to which a change in the basis of value had been made.

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 96–39, § 202(a)(2)(C), substituted “changes in classification or increases or decreases” for “changes in classification or in basis of value or increases or decreases”.

1958—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 85–686 struck out provisions which authorized the commission to adopt such reasonable procedure and rules and regulations as it deemed necessary to execute its functions under this section. See section 1335 of this title.

1956—Subsec. (b). Act Aug. 2, 1956, struck out “(as defined in section 1402 (g))” after “selling price”.

Effective Date of 1979 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 96–39 effective July 1, 1980, see section 204(a) of Pub. L. 96–39, set out as a note under section 1401a of this title.

Effective Date of 1956 Amendment

Amendment by act Aug. 2, 1956, effective only as to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after thirtieth day following publication of the final list provided for in section 6(a) of said act, set out in note under section 1402 of this title, see section 8 of act Aug. 2, 1956, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1401a of this title.