



SR0673

LRB096 21341 GRL 37430 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Spartan Light Metal Products has been an industry leader in magnesium custom die castings for the past 4 decades; the company has been owned and operated as a family business since 1961 and employs over 600 people; and

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WHEREAS, Spartan Light Metal Products provides die cast products from magnesium alloys that reduce weight and improve performance of products at competitive costs; and

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WHEREAS, Magnesium die casting, such as Spartan Light Metal Products, are being greatly harmed by the tariffs (731-TA-1071 and 731-TA-1072) that have been placed on imported magnesium alloys by the United States International Trade Commission; these tariffs allow the nation's lone magnesium producer to set whatever price it chooses for raw magnesium, driving many die cast companies out of business; and

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WHEREAS, The tariffs have created an advantage for foreign competitors, who can purchase magnesium at globally-competitive prices and export finished products to U.S. markets free of penalties; this practice replaces U.S. manufacturing jobs and could lead to bankruptcy for the industry; and

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1 WHEREAS, The tariffs have also placed U.S. car
2 manufacturers at a cost and weight disadvantage against foreign
3 carmakers in meeting Corporate Average Fuel Economy
4 requirements; as a result, about 60% of Spartan Light Metal
5 Products' magnesium business for 2011 is disappearing at a time
6 when the demand for magnesium products is growing; therefore,
7 be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the U.S.
10 President and Congress to find a creative solution to protect
11 the nation's lone magnesium producer without destroying the
12 U.S. magnesium die casting industry; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That we further urge the U.S. President and
14 Congress to lift U.S. tariffs 731-TA-1071 and 731-TA-1072 on
15 die cast magnesium alloys from China and Russia or to create a
16 fair market by placing a similar tariff on imported assemblies
17 and products made from die cast magnesium alloys; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
20 presented to the President of the United States and the members
21 of the Illinois congressional delegation.