



CFA News Flash

SENATE COMMITTEE ADVANCES AMERICAN-MADE PRODUCTS ACT

At issue: California is the ONLY state imposing stricter 'Made in USA' labeling requirements than those imposed by the Federal Trade Commission

The Reinforcing American-Made Products Act gives the federal government the *exclusive authority* to regulate the labeling of products Made in the USA or Made in America for domestic sale, consumption, and advertising, or for export. The Act will now move to the full Senate for consideration after the Senate's Commerce Committee *gave approval* to the measure.

The Made in the USA Act would ensure the federal government maintains authority in setting country-of-origin labeling standards so that states do not create a patchwork of different standards governing interstate and exported goods. California has complicated our country's standard, setting a rigid 95% threshold, and exposing manufacturers to unnecessary litigation. The Reinforcing American-Made Products Act would fix that by creating one national standard.

Varying interpretations of the Federal Trade Commission's labeling standards has resulted in different labeling requirements for the manufacturers and retailers on a state by state basis. This is both confusing for consumers and costly for companies trying to produce quality Made in USA products, and discourages domestic production.

Introduced by Sen. Angus King (I-Maine), who said, "The revitalization of American manufacturing begins with ensuring that U.S. manufacturers do not face excessive burdens at home. And allowing a more complex and burdensome state standard on so-called Made in the USA labeling to supersede a strong federal standard complicates the work of manufacturers across the country who are, in fact, making it in America, and contributing to their local economies. This legislation would maintain a clear national standard which will keep consumers informed and encourage our domestic manufacturers to keep making products right here at home."

The **California Fashion Association** has been communicating with Senator King's office on this issue over the years. Hopefully, this barrier is finally being removed!

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