

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3832

To clarify and extend the commitment of the United States to pursue economic cooperation with Costa Rica and other nations in the Caribbean Basin, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 15, 2007

Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To clarify and extend the commitment of the United States to pursue economic cooperation with Costa Rica and other nations in the Caribbean Basin, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “U.S. and Costa Rica
5 Trade Cooperation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The United States and Costa Rica have a
2 strong economic relationship built on mutual trust
3 and respect for each other's laws and political sys-
4 tems.

5 (2) It is the sovereign decision of Costa Ricans
6 whether or not to ratify the Central American Free
7 Trade Agreement (CAFTA) in their historic popular
8 referendum.

9 (3) The United States will fully respect what-
10 ever decision the Costa Rican people make on the
11 CAFTA referendum.

12 (4) It is the official position of the United
13 States that no entity of the U.S. Government be al-
14 lowed to interfere in Costa Rica's referendum on the
15 Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA).

16 (5) Almost all of Costa Rica's duty free U.S.
17 market access is already permanent under U.S. law.

18 (6) The Constitution clearly provides Congress
19 with the responsibility of establishing U.S. trade pol-
20 icy. The statements made by United States Trade
21 Representative Susan Schwab on October 4, 2007,
22 regarding the U.S. trade relationship with Costa
23 Rica do not reflect U.S. trade policy.

24 (7) Regardless of the outcome of the historic
25 referendum on whether or not to ratify the Central

1 American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), the
2 U.S. will continue to extend all current trade bene-
3 fits to Costa Rica.

4 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY PROVISION TO PRO-**
5 **VIDE ADDITIONAL TRADE BENEFITS TO CER-**
6 **TAIN BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES UNDER THE**
7 **CARIBBEAN BASIN ECONOMIC RECOVERY**
8 **ACT.**

9 Section 213(b) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Re-
10 covery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703(b)) is amended—

11 (1) in subclauses (II)(cc) and (IV)(dd) of para-
12 graph (2)(A)(3)(iii), by striking “through September
13 30, 2008” each place it appears; and

14 (2) in paragraph (5)(D), by striking “ends on
15 the earlier of” and all that follows through “the date
16 on which” and inserting “ends on the date on
17 which”.

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