



**THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE**

Washington, D.C. 20230

SEP 12 2001

The Honorable John B. Breaux  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-1803

Dear Senator Breaux:

Thank you for your recent letter, cosigned by Senator Craig, regarding S. 753, legislation you have introduced that would extend tariff-rate quotas to certain imported sugar syrups. This legislation seeks to address concerns about perceived circumvention of the sugar import tariff-rate quotas by importers of so-called "stuffed molasses" products.

The Administration is reviewing this legislation and does not currently have a position on the bill. In addition, we are aware that there was a recent decision by the Federal Circuit Court reversing the Court of International Trade ruling on the classification of this sugar syrup product, which may impact on this matter.

I appreciate the information and materials that you have supplied in support of your bill, and the opportunity to discuss this issue with you personally during our recent meeting. Please be assured that your views will be fully considered by the Administration as we move forward in our review of S. 753. If you need additional information, please contact me or Brenda Becker, Assistant Secretary for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-3663.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. L. Evans", is written over the typed name.

Donald L. Evans