

US Congress Moves to Strip Brazil of Developing Country Status

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The American Conservative Union (ACU) today announced on behalf of its one million members and supporters its support of U.S. House of Representatives Resolution 3141, directing the President to terminate Brazil's designation as a developing country, thereby eliminating the country's qualification for preferred trade status, or GSP.

This bill, proposed by Congressman Mark Kirk of Illinois, establishes clear consequences in response to Brazil's continued violations against American intellectual property rights.

"ACU is encouraged that members of the U.S. House of Representatives are holding Brazil accountable for its threats against American intellectual property rights," said Stacie Rumenap, deputy director of ACU.

"It is now time for the Administration to send a similar message to Brazil's leadership; making it clear that threats against American innovation will not go unanswered," she continued.

The U.S. Department of State estimates that Brazilian GSP exports to the United States were valued at US\$ 2.5 billion in 2003.

American Conservative Union - www.conservative.org