

Public Law 94-319
94th Congress

An Act

To amend the Act of August 31, 1922, to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases and parasites harmful to honeybees, and for other purposes.

June 25, 1976

[S. 18]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of the Act of August 31, 1922, as amended (42 Stat. 833; 76 Stat. 169; 7 U.S.C. 281), is amended to read as follows:

Honeybees.
Importation,
limitation.

“(a) In order to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases and parasites harmful to honeybees, and the introduction of genetically undesirable germ plasm of honeybees, the importation into the United States of all honeybees is prohibited, except that honeybees may be imported into the United States—

“(1) by the United States Department of Agriculture for experimental or scientific purposes, or

“(2) from countries determined by the Secretary of Agriculture—

“(A) to be free of diseases or parasites harmful to honeybees, and undesirable species or subspecies of honeybees; and

“(B) to have in operation precautions adequate to prevent the importation of honeybees from other countries where harmful diseases or parasites, or undesirable species or subspecies, of honeybees exist.

“(b) Honeybee semen may be imported into the United States only from countries determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be free of undesirable species or subspecies of honeybees, and which have in operation precautions adequate to prevent the importation of such undesirable honeybees and their semen.

“(c) Honeybees and honeybee semen imported pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be imported under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe.

“(d) Except with respect to honeybees and honeybee semen imported pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section, all honeybees or honeybee semen offered for import or intercepted entering the United States shall be destroyed or immediately exported.

“(e) As used in this Act, the term ‘honeybee’ means all life stages and the germ plasm of honeybees of the genus *Apis*, except honeybee semen.”

“Honeybee.”

SEC. 2. Section 2 of the Act of August 31, 1922 (42 Stat. 834; 7 U.S.C. 282), is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 2. Any person who violates any provision of section 1 of this Act or any regulation issued under it is guilty of an offense against the United States and shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$1,000, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.”

Penalties.

SEC. 3. The Act of August 31, 1922, is further amended by adding the following new sections:

“SEC. 3. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture either independently or in cooperation with States or political subdivisions thereof, farmers’ associations, and similar organizations and individuals, is authorized

Undesirable
species,
eradication and
control.
7 USC 284.

to carry out operations or measures in the United States to eradicate, suppress, control, and to prevent or retard the spread of undesirable species and subspecies of honeybees.

“(b) The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to cooperate with the Governments of Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia, or the local authorities thereof, in carrying out necessary research, surveys, and control operations in those countries in connection with the eradication, suppression, control, and prevention or retardation of the spread of undesirable species and subspecies of honeybees, including but not limited to *Apis mellifera adansonii*, commonly known as the African or Brazilian honeybee. The measure and character of cooperation carried out under this subsection on the part of such countries, including the expenditure or use of funds appropriated pursuant to this Act, shall be such as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Arrangements for the cooperation authorized by this subsection shall be made through and in consultation with the Secretary of State.

“(c) In performing the operations or measures authorized in this Act, the cooperating foreign country, State, or local agency shall be responsible for the authority to carry out such operations or measures on all lands and properties within the foreign country or State, other than those owned or controlled by the Federal Government of the United States, and for such other facilities and means as in the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture are necessary.

7 USC 285.

“SEC. 4. Funds appropriated to carry out the provisions of this Act may also be used for printing and binding without regard to section 501 of title 44, United States Code, for employment, by contract or otherwise, of civilian nationals of Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia for services abroad, and for the construction and operation of research laboratories, quarantine stations, and other buildings and facilities.

Appropriation authorization.
7 USC 286.

“SEC. 5. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.”

Approved June 25, 1976.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 94-1160 (Comm. on Agriculture).

SENATE REPORT No. 94-193 (Comm. on Agriculture and Forestry).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 121 (1975): June 16, considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 122 (1976): June 7, considered and passed House, amended.

June 15, Senate concurred in House amendment.