

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 617

To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to require that imported meat, and meat food products containing imported meat, bear a label identifying the country of origin.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 17, 1997

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. BAUCUS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to require that imported meat, and meat food products containing imported meat, bear a label identifying the country of origin.

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 “Imported Meat Label-
5 ing Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING OF IMPORTED**
2 **MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS.**

3 (a) LABELING REQUIRED.—Section 1(n) of the Fed-
4 eral Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601(n)) is amended
5 by adding at the end the following:

6 “(13)(A) If it is imported into the United
7 States unless it bears or is accompanied by labeling
8 that identifies the country of origin of the animal
9 that is the source of the imported carcass, part
10 thereof, or meat or is part of the contents of the im-
11 ported meat food product.

12 “(B) If it originates from an animal that was
13 imported into the United States less than 10 days
14 prior to slaughter unless it bears or is accompanied
15 by labeling that identifies the country of origin of
16 the animal.

17 “(C) If it is a meat food product prepared in
18 the United States using any carcass, part thereof, or
19 meat imported into the United States unless the
20 meat food product bears or is accompanied by label-
21 ing that identifies the country of origin of the ani-
22 mal that is the source of the imported carcass, part
23 thereof, or meat.

24 “(D) In this paragraph, the term ‘country of
25 origin’ means the country or countries in which an
26 animal is raised before slaughter.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1(n) of
2 the Federal Meat Inspection Act is amended—

3 (1) by striking “if” at the beginning of each of
4 paragraphs (1) through (12) and inserting “If”;

5 (2) by striking the semicolon at the end of each
6 of paragraphs (1) through (10) and inserting a pe-
7 riod; and

8 (3) in paragraph (11), by striking “; or” at the
9 end and inserting a period.

10 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
11 this section shall take effect 1 year after the date of enact-
12 ment of this Act.

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