

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1617

To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to provide for the eventual removal of intrastate distribution restrictions on State inspected meat and poultry.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 1999

Mr. THORNBERRY (for himself, Mr. STENHOLM, Mrs. CUBIN, and Mr. THUNE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to provide for the eventual removal of intrastate distribution restrictions on State inspected meat and poultry.

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. REMOVAL OF INTRASTATE DISTRIBUTION RE-**
4 **STRICTIONS ON STATE INSPECTED MEAT**
5 **AND POULTRY.**

6 (a) FEDERAL MEAT INSPECTION ACT.—

1 (1) REMOVAL OF INTRASTATE DISTRIBUTION
2 LIMITATION.—Section 301 of the Federal Meat In-
3 spection Act (21 U.S.C. 661) is amended—

4 (A) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
5 section (e); and

6 (B) by inserting after subsection (c) the
7 following new subsection:

8 “(d) REMOVAL OF INTRASTATE DISTRIBUTION LIM-
9 TATION.—

10 “(1) PERMANENT REMOVAL.—Effective Janu-
11 ary 25, 2000, the limitation in subsection (a)(1) that
12 restricts State inspected meat and meat food prod-
13 ucts to intrastate distribution shall no longer apply.

14 “(2) EARLY WAIVER AUTHORITY.—Before the
15 date specified in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall
16 waive the intrastate distribution limitation in sub-
17 section (a)(1) with regard to a State if the Secretary
18 determines that the meat inspection agency for the
19 State enforces a State meat inspection law that im-
20 poses mandatory ante mortem and post mortem in-
21 spection, reinspection, and sanitation requirements
22 that are at least equal to those under title I and IV
23 of this Act, with respect to persons engaged in the
24 State in slaughtering cattle, sheep, swine, goats, or
25 equines, or preparing the carcasses, parts thereof,

1 meat or meat food products, of any such animals for
 2 use as human food.”.

3 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection
 4 (a) of such section is amended—

5 (A) in the matter before paragraph (1), by
 6 striking “this policy—” and inserting “this pol-
 7 icy.”; and

8 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “The
 9 Secretary is” and inserting “Subject to sub-
 10 section (d), the Secretary is”.

11 (b) POULTRY PRODUCTS INSPECTION ACT.—

12 (1) REMOVAL OF INTRASTATE DISTRIBUTION
 13 LIMITATION.—Section 5 of the Poultry Products In-
 14 spection Act (21 U.S.C. 454) is amended—

15 (A) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
 16 section (e); and

17 (B) by inserting after subsection (c) the
 18 following new subsection:

19 “(d) REMOVAL OF INTRASTATE DISTRIBUTION LIM-
 20 ITATION.—

21 “(1) PERMANENT REMOVAL.—Effective Janu-
 22 ary 25, 2000, the limitation in subsection (a)(1) that
 23 restricts State inspected poultry and poultry prod-
 24 ucts to intrastate distribution shall no longer apply.

1 “(2) EARLY WAIVER AUTHORITY.—Before the
2 date specified in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall
3 waive the intrastate distribution limitation in sub-
4 section (a)(1) with regard to a State if the Secretary
5 determines that the poultry product inspection agen-
6 cy for the State enforces a mandatory State poultry
7 product inspection law that imposes ante mortem
8 and post mortem inspection, reinspection, and sani-
9 tation requirements that are at least equal to those
10 under this Act, with respect to persons engaged in
11 the State in slaughtering poultry or processing poul-
12 try products for use as human food.”.

13 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection
14 (a) of such section is amended—

15 (A) in the matter before paragraph (1), by
16 striking “this policy—” and inserting “this pol-
17 icy:”; and

18 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “The
19 Secretary is” and inserting “Subject to sub-
20 section (d), the Secretary is”.

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