

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 282

To establish in the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice a position with responsibility for agricultural antitrust matters.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 2001

Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. LUGAR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A BILL

To establish in the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice a position with responsibility for agricultural antitrust matters.

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. ESTABLISHMENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be established within
5 the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice a po-
6 sition the primary responsibility of which shall be to pro-
7 vide assistance and advice to the Assistant Attorney Gen-
8 eral of the Antitrust Division to further the effective en-
9 forcement of the antitrust laws with respect to the food
10 and agricultural sectors.

1 (b) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General
3 shall appoint a person to the position described in sub-
4 section (a).

5 (c) FUNCTIONS.—The responsibilities of the position
6 established under subsection (a) shall include all actions
7 appropriate to furthering effective enforcement of the
8 antitrust laws with respect to the food and agricultural
9 sectors, including—

10 (1) assisting and advising with respect to the
11 investigation of possible restraints of trade;

12 (2) assisting and advising with respect to the
13 investigation of mergers and acquisitions; and

14 (3) ensuring that any investigation described in
15 paragraphs (1) or (2) takes into account the effects
16 of the conduct or transaction under investigation on
17 consumers, agricultural producers and rural commu-
18 nities.

19 **SEC. 2. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.**

20 Nothing in this Act shall affect or limit the authority
21 of the Attorney General or the Assistant Attorney General
22 of the Antitrust Division to delegate or assign functions
23 relating to the enforcement of any provision of law.

1 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE PERIOD.**

2 This Act shall be effective until the date that is 5
3 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

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