

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3546

To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to improve the safety of meat and poultry products by enhancing the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture to retrieve the history, use, and location of a meat or poultry product through a recordkeeping and audit system or registered identification, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 20, 2003

Ms. DEGETTE (for herself, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. STARK, and Mr. ENGLISH) 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 improve the safety of meat and poultry products by enhancing the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture to retrieve the history, use, and location of a meat or poultry product through a recordkeeping and audit system or registered identification, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Meat and Poultry
3 Products Traceability and Safety Act of 2003”.

4 **SEC. 2. TRACEABILITY OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY.**

5 (a) LIVESTOCK.—Title I of the Federal Meat Inspec-
6 tion Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended by adding
7 at the end the following:

8 **“SEC. 25. TRACEABILITY OF LIVESTOCK, MEAT, AND MEAT**
9 **PRODUCTS.**

10 “(a) DEFINITION OF TRACEABILITY.—In this sec-
11 tion, the term ‘traceability’ means the ability to retrieve
12 the history, use, and location of an article through a rec-
13 ordkeeping and audit system or registered identification.

14 “(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Cattle, sheep, swine, goats,
16 and horses, mules, and other equines presented for
17 slaughter for human food purposes, and the car-
18 casses or parts of carcasses and the meat and meat
19 food products of those animals, shipped in interstate
20 commerce shall be identified in a manner that en-
21 ables the Secretary to trace—

22 “(A) each animal to any premises or other
23 location at which the animal was held at any
24 time before slaughter; and

25 “(B) each carcass or part of a carcass and
26 meat and meat food product of such animals

1 forward from slaughter through processing and
2 distribution to the ultimate consumer.

3 “(2) TRACEABILITY SYSTEM.—The Secretary
4 shall establish a traceability system for all stages of
5 production, processing, and distribution of meat and
6 meat food products that are produced through the
7 slaughter of animals described in paragraph (1).

8 “(c) PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION ON ENTRY.—
9 The Secretary may prohibit or restrict entry into any
10 slaughtering establishment inspected under this Act of any
11 cattle, sheep, swine, goats, or horses, mules, or other
12 equines not identified as prescribed by the Secretary under
13 subsection (b).

14 “(d) RECORDS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require
16 that each person, firm, and corporation required to
17 identify livestock pursuant to subsection (b) main-
18 tain accurate records, as prescribed by the Sec-
19 retary, regarding the purchase, sale, and identifica-
20 tion of the livestock.

21 “(2) ACCESS.—Each person, firm, and corpora-
22 tion described in paragraph (1) shall, at all reason-
23 able times, on notice by a duly authorized represent-
24 ative of the Secretary, allow the representative to ac-
25 cess to each place of business of the person, firm, or

1 corporation to examine and copy the records de-
2 scribed in paragraph (1).

3 “(3) DURATION.—Each person, firm, and cor-
4 poration described in paragraph (1) shall maintain
5 records required to be maintained under this sub-
6 section for such period of time as the Secretary pre-
7 scribes.

8 “(e) FALSE INFORMATION.—No person, firm, or cor-
9 poration shall falsify or misrepresent to any other person,
10 firm, or corporation, or to the Secretary, any information
11 as to any premises at which any cattle, sheep, swine,
12 goats, horses, mules, or other equines, or carcasses there-
13 of, were held.

14 “(f) ALTERATION OR DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS.—
15 No person, firm, or corporation shall, without authoriza-
16 tion from the Secretary, alter, detach, or destroy any
17 records or other means of identification prescribed by the
18 Secretary for use in determining the premises at which
19 were held any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules,
20 or other equines, or the carcasses thereof.”.

21 (b) POULTRY.—The Poultry Products Inspection Act
22 is amended by inserting after section 23 (21 U.S.C. 467e)
23 the following:

1 **“SEC. 23A. TRACEABILITY OF POULTRY AND POULTRY**
2 **PRODUCTS.**

3 “(a) DEFINITION OF TRACEABILITY.—In this sec-
4 tion, the term ‘traceability’ means the ability to retrieve
5 the history, use, and location of an article through a rec-
6 ordkeeping and audit system or registered identification.

7 “(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Poultry presented for
9 slaughter for human food purposes and poultry
10 products shipped in interstate commerce shall be
11 identified in a manner that enables the Secretary to
12 trace—

13 “(A) each animal to any premises or other
14 location at which the animal was held at any
15 time before slaughter; and

16 “(B) each poultry product forward from
17 slaughter through processing and distribution
18 to the ultimate consumer.

19 “(2) TRACEABILITY SYSTEM.—The Secretary
20 shall establish a traceability system for all stages of
21 production, processing, and distribution of poultry
22 and poultry food products that are produced through
23 the slaughter of animals described in paragraph (1).

24 “(c) PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION ON ENTRY.—
25 The Secretary may prohibit or restrict entry into any

1 slaughtering establishment inspected under this Act of any
2 poultry not identified as prescribed by the Secretary.

3 “(d) RECORDS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require
5 that each person, firm, and corporation required to
6 identify poultry pursuant to subsection (b) maintain
7 accurate records, as prescribed by the Secretary, re-
8 garding the purchase, sale, and identification of the
9 poultry.

10 “(2) ACCESS.—Each person, firm, and corpora-
11 tion described in paragraph (1) shall, at all reason-
12 able times, on notice by a duly authorized represent-
13 ative of the Secretary, allow the representative to ac-
14 cess to each place of business of the person, firm, or
15 corporation to examine and copy the records de-
16 scribed in paragraph (1).

17 “(3) DURATION.—Each person, firm, and cor-
18 poration described in paragraph (1) shall maintain
19 records required to be maintained under this sub-
20 section for such period of time as the Secretary pre-
21 scribes.

22 “(e) FALSE INFORMATION.—No person, firm, or cor-
23 poration shall falsify or misrepresent to any other person,
24 firm, or corporation, or to the Secretary, any information

1 as to any premises at which any poultry, or carcasses
2 thereof, were held.

3 “(f) ALTERATION OR DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS.—

4 No person, firm, or corporation shall, without authoriza-
5 tion from the Secretary, alter, detach, or destroy any
6 records or other means of identification prescribed by the
7 Secretary for use in determining the premises at which
8 were held any poultry or the carcasses thereof.”.

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