

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4689

To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to provide that a quality grade label issued by the Secretary of Agriculture for beef and lamb may not be used for imported beef or imported lamb.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2006

Ms. HERSETH (for herself, Mrs. CUBIN, and Ms. KAPTUR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to provide that a quality grade label issued by the Secretary of Agriculture for beef and lamb may not be used for imported beef or imported lamb.

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 “Truth in Quality Grad-
5 ing Act of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. QUALITY GRADE LABELING OF BEEF AND LAMB.**

2 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1 of the Federal Meat In-
3 spection Act (21 U.S.C. 601) is amended by adding at
4 the end the following:

5 “(x) BEEF.—The term ‘beef’ means meat produced
6 from cattle (including veal).

7 “(y) IMPORTED BEEF.—The term ‘imported beef’
8 means beef that is not United States beef, whether or not
9 the beef is graded with a quality grade issued by the Sec-
10 retary.

11 “(z) IMPORTED LAMB.—The term ‘imported lamb’
12 means lamb that is not United States lamb, whether or
13 not the lamb is graded with a quality grade issued by the
14 Secretary.

15 “(aa) LAMB.—The term ‘lamb’ means meat, other
16 than mutton, produced from sheep.

17 “(bb) UNITED STATES BEEF.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘United States
19 beef’ means beef produced from cattle slaughtered in
20 the United States.

21 “(2) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘United States
22 beef’ does not include beef produced from cattle im-
23 ported into the United States.

24 “(cc) UNITED STATES LAMB.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘United States
2 lamb’ means lamb produced from sheep slaughtered
3 in the United States.

4 “(2) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘United States
5 lamb’ does not include lamb produced from sheep
6 imported into the United States.”.

7 (b) MISBRANDING.—Section 1(n) of the Federal
8 Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601(n)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (11), by striking “or” at the
10 end;

11 (2) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at
12 the end and inserting “; or”; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(13) if it is imported beef or imported lamb
15 and bears a label that indicates a quality grade
16 issued by the Secretary.”.

17 (c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the
18 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture
19 shall promulgate final regulations to carry out the amend-
20 ments made by this section.

21 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 this section take effect 60 days after the date on which
23 final regulations are promulgated under subsection (c).

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