

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 782

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to amend regulations to allow for certain packers to have an interest in market agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Ms. ERNST) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to amend regulations to allow for certain packers to have an interest in market agencies, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Expanding Local Meat
5 Processing Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. ALLOWED INTEREST OF CERTAIN PACKERS IN MAR-**
7 **KET AGENCIES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture

1 shall revise section 201.67 of title 9, Code of Federal Reg-
2 ulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act),
3 to exempt the packers described in subsection (b) from
4 the prohibition described in that section.

5 (b) PACKERS DESCRIBED.—A packer referred to in
6 subsection (a) is a packer that—

7 (1) with respect to cattle or sheep, has a cumu-
8 lative slaughter capacity of less than—

9 (A) 2,000 animals per day; or

10 (B) 700,000 animals per year; and

11 (2) with respect to hogs, has a cumulative
12 slaughter capacity of less than—

13 (A) 10,000 animals per day; or

14 (B) 3,000,000 animals per year.

15 (c) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE.—In the case of a mar-
16 ket agency that has an ownership interest in, finances, or
17 participates in the management or operation of a packer
18 to which the market agency sells consigned livestock, the
19 market agency shall disclose on the account of sale the
20 name of the packer and the nature of the relationship be-
21 tween the market agency and the packer.

22 (d) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section limits
23 the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to adopt or
24 enforce rules or regulations under the Packers and Stock-
25 yards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 181 et seq.), relating to the

- 1 protection of producers, competition, market integrity, or
- 2 the prevention of conflicts of interest.

