

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2014

736V0780

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1021

Introduced by: Representatives May, Anderson, Bartling, Campbell, Craig, Greenfield, Haggar (Don), Haggar (Jenna), Hawks, Heinert, Hoffman, Johns, Kopp, Olson (Betty), Schaefer, Schrempp, Stevens, Tulson, and Wick and Senators Bradford, Ewing, Jensen, and Maher

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging the United States Department of Agriculture to
2 withdraw certain rules imperiling the South Dakota livestock industry.

3 WHEREAS, the South Dakota cattle industry is vital to the economic and social well-being
4 of the state; and

5 WHEREAS, foot-and-mouth disease is one of the most contagious diseases known to
6 cloven-footed animals including cattle, hogs, and sheep and an outbreak of the disease could
7 significantly harm livestock producers and South Dakota's economy; and

8 WHEREAS, the United States has not had an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease since
9 1929 when the disease was then inadvertently introduced into the state of California via
10 contaminated animal products imported from Argentina; and

11 WHEREAS, the United States has successfully prevented any further reintroductions of
12 foot-and-mouth disease by strictly prohibiting the importation of livestock and fresh and chilled
13 meat originating in countries where foot-and-mouth disease has not been eradicated and where
14 a risk of outbreaks persists; and



1 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture is now proposing a rule to allow
2 the importation into the United States of fresh and chilled beef from fourteen states in Brazil,
3 including states where widespread outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease occurred as recently as
4 2005 and 2006, where vaccination is practiced in an attempt to control foot-and-mouth disease,
5 and that are adjacent to Paraguay, which had an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease as recently
6 as 2011; and

7 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture admits there is an increased risk
8 of introducing foot-and-mouth disease into the United States under its proposed rule by
9 acknowledging that "as long as foot-and-mouth disease is endemic in the overall region in South
10 America, there is a risk of reintroduction from adjacent areas into the proposed exporting
11 region," which is the fourteen states in Brazil; and

12 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture further admits that its proposed
13 rule would result in reduced financial returns to cattle producers and beef processors in the
14 United States, which necessarily includes those in the State of South Dakota:

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-
16 Ninth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the United
17 States Department of Agriculture be requested to immediately withdraw its proposed rule titled
18 "Importation of Beef from a Region in Brazil" that would allow the importation of fresh and
19 chilled beef from fourteen states in Brazil and instead to promulgate a rule to strictly prohibit
20 the importation of fresh and chilled beef from Brazil until the United States Secretary of
21 Agriculture certifies to Congress that every region of Brazil is free of foot-and-mouth disease
22 without vaccination; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the
24 United States, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, and each member of the South Dakota

1 congressional delegation.