

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1023

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Supporting mandatory country of origin labeling for agricultural products.

WHEREAS, the dramatic increase in the incidence of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in Europe has promoted the World Health Organization to declare its "exposure worldwide" thus critically threatening the safety of our food supply; and

WHEREAS, a labeling system that enhances traceability and accountability will help insure the safe consumption of food; and

WHEREAS, the taxpaying consumers have made a huge investment in food safety and have the right to know where their food is produced; and

WHEREAS, U.S. growers and producers are subject to numerous regulations designed to protect food safety, our environment, and the welfare of our workers, and co-mingling of food produced and processed under these rigorous standards with food from every other source is a practice that undermines the credibility of our food system:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-seventh Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature urges Congress to enact legislation that mandates country of origin labeling for meat, dairy products, and produce and requires that products labeled "U.S. Produced" be produced, born, raised, or processed completely in the United States. Any product bearing a "USDA INSPECTED" label should also state the country of origin as a part of that label.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,
Concurred in by the Senate,

February 14, 2002
February 19, 2002

Scott Eccarius
Speaker of the House

Karen Gerdes
Chief Clerk of the House

Carole Hillard
President of the Senate

Patricia Adam
Secretary of the Senate