

One Hundred Third Congress
of the
United States of America

AT THE FIRST SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday,
the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-three*

An Act

To amend the Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 to cover seedless and not seeded limes, to increase the exemption level, to delay the initial referendum date, and to alter the composition of the Lime Board, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Improvement Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 was enacted on November 28, 1990, for the purpose of establishing an orderly procedure for the development and financing of an effective and coordinated program of research, promotion, and consumer information to strengthen the domestic and foreign markets for limes.

(2) The lime research, promotion, and consumer information order required by such Act became effective on January 27, 1992.

(3) Although the intent of such Act was to cover seedless limes, the definition of the term “lime” in section 1953(6) of such Act applies to seeded limes. Therefore, the Act and the order need to be revised before a research, promotion, and consumer information program on seedless limes can go into effect.

(4) Since the enactment of the Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act of 1990, the United States production of fresh market limes has plummeted and the volume of imports has risen dramatically. The drop in United States production is primarily due to damage to lime orchards in the State of Florida by Hurricane Andrew in August 1992. United States production is not expected to reach pre-Hurricane Andrew levels for possibly two to three years because a majority of the United States production of limes is in Florida.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purpose of this Act is—

(1) to revise the definition of the term “lime” in order to cover seedless and not seeded limes;

(2) to increase the exemption level;

(3) to delay the initial referendum date; and

(4) to alter the composition of the Lime Board.

SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF LIME.

Section 1953(6) of the Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6202(6)) is amended by striking “citrus aurantifolia” and inserting “citrus latifolia”.

SEC. 4. REQUIRED TERMS IN ORDERS.

(a) COMPOSITION OF LIME BOARD.—Subsection (b) of section 1955 of the Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6204) is amended—

- (1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “7” and inserting “3”;
- (2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “7” and inserting “3”;
- (3) in paragraph (2)(F), by adding at the end the following new sentence: “The Secretary shall terminate the initial Board established under this subsection as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of the Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Improvement Act.”; and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (2)(F) the following new paragraph:

“(G) BOARD ALLOCATION.—The producer and importer representation on the Board shall be allocated on the basis of 2 producer members and 1 importer member from the district east of the Mississippi River and 1 producer member and 2 importer members from the district west of the Mississippi River.”.

(b) TERMS OF MEMBERS.—Subsection (b)(4) of such section is amended—

(1) by striking “Members” and all that follows through “appointed—” and inserting “The initial members of the Board appointed under the amended order shall serve a term of 30 months. Subsequent appointments to the Board shall be for a term of 3 years, except that—”;

- (2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “3” and inserting “2”;
 - (3) in subparagraph (B), by striking “4” and inserting “2”;
- and

(4) in subparagraph (C), by striking “4” and inserting “3”.

(c) DE MINIMIS EXCEPTION.—Subsection (d)(5) of such section is amended by striking “35,000” each place it appears and inserting “200,000”.

SEC. 5. INITIAL REFERENDUM.

Section 1960(a) of the Lime Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6209(a)) is amended by striking “Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Secretary first issues an order under section 1954(a),” and inserting

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“Not later than 30 months after the date on which the collection of assessments begins under the order pursuant to section 1955(d),”.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

*Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.*