

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2602

To require country of origin labeling of perishable agricultural commodities imported into the United States and to impose criminal fines for violations of such labeling requirements.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 1995

Mr. BONO (for himself, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. MOORHEAD, and Mr. STOCKMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To require country of origin labeling of perishable agricultural commodities imported into the United States and to impose criminal fines for violations of such labeling requirements.

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 “Imported Food Label-
5 ing Act of 1995”.

1 **SEC. 2. INDICATION OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF IMPORTED**
2 **PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the
4 terms “perishable agricultural commodity”, “commission
5 merchant”, “dealer”, and “broker” have the meanings
6 given such terms in section 1(b) of the Perishable Agricul-
7 tural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 499a(b)).

8 (b) COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABEL REQUIRED.—The
9 country of origin of a perishable agricultural commodity
10 imported into the United States shall be indicated by
11 means of a label, stamp, mark, placard, or other clear and
12 visible sign on the commodity or on the package, display,
13 holding unit, or bin containing the commodity at the final
14 point of sale to consumers.

15 (c) FINES FOR VIOLATION.—Any commission mer-
16 chant, dealer, or broker who knowingly fails to indicate
17 the country of origin of an imported perishable agricul-
18 tural commodity as required by subsection (b) shall be
19 subject to a criminal fine in an amount not to exceed
20 \$5,000 per violation. The Secretary of Agriculture shall
21 notify the Attorney General of suspected violations of the
22 labeling requirements of subsection (b).

23 (d) DEPOSIT OF FINES.—Fines collected under sub-
24 section (c) shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United
25 States as miscellaneous receipts.

1 (e) APPLICATION OF SECTION.—This section shall
2 apply with respect to perishable agricultural commodities
3 imported into the United States after the end of the six-
4 month period beginning on the date of the enactment of
5 this section.

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