

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3750

To permit the interstate distribution of State-inspected meat under appropriate circumstances.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 1996

Mr. THORNBERRY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To permit the interstate distribution of State-inspected meat under appropriate circumstances.

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 “Interstate Distribution
5 of State-Inspected Meat Act of 1996”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL AND STATE COOPERATION WITH RE-**
7 **SPECT TO MEAT INSPECTION.**

8 (a) WAIVER OF INTRASTATE DISTRIBUTION LIMITA-
9 TION UNDER THE FEDERAL MEAT INSPECTION ACT.—
10 Section 301(a) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21

1 U.S.C. 661(a)) is amended by adding the following para-
2 graph at the end thereof:

3 “(5) Upon application of an appropriate State
4 agency with which the Secretary may cooperate
5 under this Act, the Secretary shall reevaluate the
6 applicant State’s meat inspection program to verify
7 that its mandatory requirements are at least equal
8 to the Federal inspection, reinspection, and sanita-
9 tion requirements under title I of this Act.

10 “(A) In the event that the Secretary veri-
11 fies that the mandatory inspection requirements
12 of the applicant State are at least equal to Fed-
13 eral inspection requirements, the limitation in
14 paragraph (1) of this section which restricts
15 meat inspected by the applicant State to intra-
16 state distribution shall be waived by the Sec-
17 retary.

18 “(B) Following any waiver under subpara-
19 graph (A) of this paragraph, the Secretary is
20 authorized to perform random inspections of
21 State-inspected plants within the applicant
22 State to ensure that the mandatory State in-
23 spection requirements employed therein are at
24 least equal to the substantive Federal inspection
25 requirements under title I of this Act.

1 “(C) The Secretary may utilize Federal
2 personnel, or may cooperate with the appro-
3 priate State agency under this Act to train and
4 utilize State personnel, to perform any random
5 inspections authorized by this paragraph.

6 “(D) In the event that a random inspec-
7 tion performed under this paragraph discloses
8 that a State-inspected plant is not employing
9 mandatory inspection requirements at least
10 equal to the substantive Federal inspection re-
11 quirements under title I of this Act, the Sec-
12 retary shall reimpose the restriction against the
13 interstate distribution of meat and meat prod-
14 ucts produced at that plant until a subsequent
15 inspection verifies that the plant has reestab-
16 lished mandatory inspection requirements at
17 least equal to the substantive Federal inspection
18 requirements under title I of this Act.”.

19 (b) WAIVER OF INTRASTATE DISTRIBUTION LIMITA-
20 TION UNDER THE POULTRY PRODUCTS INSPECTION
21 ACT.—Section 5(a) of the Poultry Products Inspection
22 Act (21 U.S.C. 454(a)) is amended by adding the follow-
23 ing paragraph at the end thereof:

24 “(5) Upon application of an appropriate State
25 agency with which the Secretary may cooperate

1 under this Act, the Secretary shall reevaluate the
2 applicant State's poultry inspection program to ver-
3 ify that its mandatory requirements are at least
4 equal to the Federal inspection, reinspection, and
5 sanitation requirements of this Act.

6 “(A) In the event that the Secretary veri-
7 fies that the mandatory inspection requirements
8 of the applicant State are at least equal to Fed-
9 eral inspection requirements, the limitation in
10 paragraph (1) of this section that restricts poul-
11 try or poultry products inspected by the appli-
12 cant State to intrastate distribution shall be
13 waived by the Secretary.

14 “(B) Following any waiver under subpara-
15 graph (A) of this paragraph, the Secretary is
16 authorized to perform random inspections of
17 State-inspected plants within the applicant
18 State to ensure that the mandatory State in-
19 spection requirements employed therein are at
20 least equal to the substantive Federal inspection
21 requirements under title I of this Act.

22 “(C) The Secretary may utilize Federal
23 personnel, or may cooperate with the appro-
24 priate State agency under this Act to train and

1 utilize State personnel, to perform any random
2 inspections authorized by this paragraph.

3 “(D) In the event that a random inspec-
4 tion performed under this paragraph discloses
5 that a State-inspected plant is not employing
6 mandatory inspection requirements at least
7 equal to the substantive Federal inspection re-
8 quirements of this Act, the Secretary shall re-
9 impose the restriction against the interstate dis-
10 tribution of poultry and poultry products pro-
11 duced at that plant until a subsequent inspec-
12 tion verifies that the plant has reestablished
13 mandatory inspection requirements at least
14 equal to the substantive inspection Federal re-
15 quirements of this Act.”.

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