

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 101

Expressing the sense of the Senate on agricultural trade negotiations.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 13, 1999

Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. ASHCROFT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate on agricultural trade negotiations.

Whereas the United States is the world's largest exporter of agricultural commodities and products;

Whereas 96 percent of the world's consumers live outside the United States;

Whereas the profitability of the United States agricultural sector is dependent on a healthy export market; and

Whereas the next round of multilateral trade negotiations is scheduled to begin on November 30, 1999: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate supports and strongly en-
 2 courages the President to adopt the following trade negoti-
 3 ating objectives:

4 (1) The initiation of a comprehensive round of
 5 multilateral trade negotiations that—

6 (A) covers all goods and services;

7 (B) continues to reform agricultural and
 8 food trade policy;

9 (C) promotes global food security through
 10 open trade; and

11 (D) increases trade liberalization in agri-
 12 culture and food.

13 (2) The simultaneous conclusion of the negotia-
 14 tions for all sectors.

15 (3) The adoption of the framework established
 16 under the Uruguay Round Agreements for the agri-
 17 cultural negotiations conducted in 1999 to ensure
 18 that there are no product or policy exceptions.

19 (4) The establishment of a 3-year goal for the
 20 conclusion of the negotiations by December 2002.

21 (5) The elimination of all export subsidies and
 22 tightening of rules for circumvention of export sub-
 23 sidies.

24 (6) The elimination of all nontariff barriers to
 25 trade.

1 (7) The transition of domestic agricultural sup-
2 port programs to a form decoupled from agricultural
3 production, as the United States has already done
4 under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7
5 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.).

6 (8) The commercially meaningful reduction or
7 elimination of bound and applied tariffs, and the
8 mutual elimination of restrictive tariff barriers, on
9 an accelerated basis.

10 (9) The improved administration of tariff rate
11 quotas.

12 (10)(A) The elimination of state trading enter-
13 prises; or

14 (B) the adoption of policies that ensure oper-
15 ational transparency, the end of discriminatory pric-
16 ing practices, and competition for state trading en-
17 terprises.

18 (11) The maintenance of sound science and risk
19 assessment for sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

20 (12) The assurance of market access for bio-
21 technology products, with the regulation of the prod-
22 ucts based solely on sound science.

23 (13) The accelerated resolution of trade dis-
24 putes and prompt enforcement of dispute panels of
25 the World Trade Organization.

1 (14) The provision of food security for import-
2 ing nations by ensuring access to supplies through
3 a commitment by World Trade Organization mem-
4 ber countries not to restrict or prohibit the export
5 of agricultural products.

6 (15) The resolution of labor and environmental
7 issues in a manner that facilitates, rather than re-
8 stricts, agricultural trade.

9 (16) The establishment of World Trade Organi-
10 zation rules that will allow developing countries to
11 graduate, using objective economic criteria, to full
12 participation in, and obligations under, the World
13 Trade Organization.

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