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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 74—RELATIVE TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BOND, Mr. BROWBACK, and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. CON. RES. 74

Whereas the European Union has banned imports of United States beef treated with hormones since 1989;

Whereas 9 out of 10 United States cattle are treated with growth promoting hormones;

Whereas growth promoting hormones have been deemed safe by all countries that have reviewed the use of such hormones, including reviews by European Union scientists in 2 separate studies;

Whereas since the implementation of the European Union ban, United States cattle producers have lost hundreds of millions of dollars in exports;

Whereas the United States beef industry loses approximately \$250,000,000 in annual sales due to the ban;

Whereas the United States beef industry, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the United States Trade Representative have invested substantial resources to comply with strict dispute settlement procedures of the World Trade Organization;

Whereas the Dispute Settlement panel and the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization have ruled that the European Union's ban on United States beef is not based on sound science or supported by a risk assessment and is therefore in violation of the World Trade Organization's Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures; and

Whereas noncompliance by the European Union regarding the ban on United States beef threatens the integrity of both the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and the World Trade Organization as a dispute settlement body; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—*

(1) the United States expects the European Union to immediately and completely comply with the World Trade Organization's ruling and grant United States beef producers access to the European market; and

(2) the United States Trade Representative should take immediate action to open European markets to United States beef producers in the event the European Union fails to comply with the World Trade Organization's ruling.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a concurrent resolution to open the European market to U.S. beef exports. Last month, the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization affirmed the earlier findings of the WTO that Europe's ban on U.S. beef violates commitments made under the Uruguay Round Agreement. The decision should clear the way for U.S. beef producers to sell their product to Europe.

This concurrent resolution requests the European Union to open its market immediately, in light of the WTO's de-

cision, and directs the U.S. Trade Representative to take action if the EU fails to do so.

This dispute goes back to 1989 when the EU banned all imports of meat from animals treated with growth hormones. About 90% of U.S. cattle is treated with hormones. They have been found to be safe by every country that has studied them. In fact, twice the EU commissioned its own scientists to study the hormones and found them to be safe.

Mr. President, to put these growth hormones in perspective: A person would have to eat 169 pounds of beef from an animal treated with a growth hormone in order to consume the equal amount of that hormone present in one, single egg. They are completely safe for human consumption.

Yet, nine years ago, the EU decided to ban this meat from coming into its market. At that time, there was little we could do to counter the ban. We negotiated with the EU and even imposed sanctions, but nothing has worked.

Then came the Uruguay Round Agreement. For the first time, members of the GATT agreed to eliminate trade barriers not founded on a sound, scientific basis. In other words, trade decisions would be made on sound science, not political science. Clearly, the beef ban was not based on sound science.

In 1996, the U.S. requested a WTO panel to determine whether the EU had breached the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement of the Uruguay Round. In August of last year, the panel found in favor of the U.S. position and the decision was affirmed in January. So the WTO has decided that the European's ban on U.S. beef violates the S/PS Agreement and must be removed immediately.

Mr. President, you would think that would be the final word on this issue. But the trade press is reporting that the Europeans are looking for ways around the decision. They want to study the issue a little longer. Even though the ban has already been in place for nine years.

It seems to me that they have had enough time. Our farmers have suffered the effects of this ban for too long. When the ban was put in place in 1989, we were sending \$100 million of beef annually to Europe. If the ban was lifted, it is estimated that beef exports would total about \$250 million per year. American beef producers literally have lost hundreds of millions of dollars due to this unjustified ban.

This concurrent resolution says to the Europeans, open your markets. You would had your day in court, now it is time to abide by the judge's decision.

If the WTO is to have long-standing legitimacy as an objective arbiter of international trade disputes, its decisions must be respected and complied with. We expect the Europeans to respect this decision, just as the United States has complied with the decision

in the Kodak-Fuji case that went against us. We do not have to like the decision. But we have to respect the dispute resolution process.

The concurrent resolution also states if the Europeans do not immediately comply with the decision and open its markets, the U.S. Trade Representative should take action. I leave it up to the able USTR to decide what action is appropriate. But we cannot stand by and allow this decision to be ignored.

Mr. President, enough is enough. The private sector and several government agencies have spent significant time and money attempting to resolve this dispute. And they have been proven to be correct. The European beef ban is simply a trade barrier, disguised as a health concern. No scientific evidence exists to justify it. And the WTO has said so. Now is the time for the EU to end the ban and allow American farmers and ranchers a fair chance to compete in the European market.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 75—HONORING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF WISCONSIN STATEHOOD

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. CON. RES. 75

Whereas the land that comprises the State of Wisconsin has been home to numerous Native American tribes for many years;

Whereas Jean Nicolet, who was the first known European to land in what was to become Wisconsin, arrived on the shores of Green Bay in 1634;

Whereas Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet discovered the Mississippi River, one of the principal waterways of North America, at Prairie du Chien on June 17, 1673;

Whereas Charles de Langlade founded at Green Bay the first permanent European settlement in Wisconsin in 1764;

Whereas, before becoming a State, Wisconsin existed under 3 flags, becoming part of the British colonial territory under the Treaty of Paris in 1763, part of the Province of Quebec under the Quebec Act of 1774, and a territory of the United States under the Second Treaty of Paris in 1783;

Whereas on July 3, 1836, the Wisconsin Territory was created from part of the Northwest Territory with Henry Dodge as its first governor and Belmont as its first capital;

Whereas the city of Madison was chosen as the Wisconsin Territory's permanent capital in the fall of 1836 and construction on the Capitol Building began in 1837;

Whereas, pursuant to legislation signed by President James K. Polk, Wisconsin joined the United States as the 30th state on May 29, 1848;

Whereas members of Native American tribes have greatly contributed to the unique culture and identity of Wisconsin by lending words from their languages to the names of many places in the State and by sharing their customs and beliefs with others who chose to make Wisconsin their home;

Whereas the Wisconsin State Motto of "Forward" was adopted in 1851;

Whereas Chester Hazen built Wisconsin's first cheese factory in the town of Ladoga in