

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 391

Reaffirming a strong commitment to U.S. producers and American-made commodities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 31, 2019

Mr. TESTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

RESOLUTION

Reaffirming a strong commitment to U.S. producers and
American-made commodities.

Whereas the U.S. farmers and ranchers raise the best meat
in the world;

Whereas Americans should have the right to knowingly buy
made in America products;

Whereas American farmers, ranchers, workers and consumers
benefit from transparency on the origin of food;

Whereas Congress overwhelmingly supported Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246; 122 Stat. 1651) because 87 percent of consumers want to know the country of origin of their meat;

Whereas in 2015, Congress repealed the Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) law for beef and pork, reducing the competitive advantage of products born, raised, and slaughtered in the U.S.;

Whereas there is no standardized definition of the term “truth in labeling”, disadvantaging American producers;

Whereas Congress supports American products, and consumers deserve the right to know where their food comes from;

Whereas the United States has the highest phytosanitary standards in the world while other countries place less emphasis on food safety;

Whereas foreign commodities, like beef and pork, are misleadingly labeled “Product of USA” if they are processed or packed in the United States;

Whereas technological advancements make it possible to accurately and efficiently identify the origin of beef and pork without costly segregation of imported and domestic commodities;

Whereas this gives producers and consumers the ability to identify true American products from foreign imported meat; and

Whereas Country-of-Origin labeling is good for farmers, ranchers, workers, and packers, because it allows them to identify their products as born and raised in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Senate supports legislation to rein-
- 2 state Country-of-Origin labeling for pork and beef to allow

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- 1 consumers to make an informed and free choice about
- 2 where their food comes from.

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