

Amendment No. ____

Offered by Rep. David Rouzer

Amendment Description: This amendment would require FSIS to contract with a land grant university to conduct a study on the industry-proven efficacy of wooden racks in the curing process of country ham production. The study will focus on the lack of clarity of how FSIS defines “material and construction to facilitate thorough cleaning” as written in 9 CFR 416.3 (a) & (b) and the Food Safety Modernization Act and how wooden racks have a proven track record to fit within that standard, which should be applied across USDA FSIS guidance.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 8467

OFFERED BY MR. ROUZER OF NORTH CAROLINA

[Page and line numbers refer to raft of the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 posted to the Committee Repository website with a timestamp of May 21, 2024 (9:38 a.m.)]

At the end of part II of subtitle A of title XII of the bill, add the following:

1 **SEC. 122 ____.** **WOODEN RACKS AND COUNTRY HAM CUR-**
2 **ING PROCESS STUDY.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, acting
5 through the Administrator of the Food Safety and Inspec-
6 tion Service, shall enter into a contract with a land-grant
7 college or university (as defined in section 1404 of the Na-
8 tional Agricultural Research, Extension, or Teaching Pol-
9 icy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)) that routinely works
10 with country ham manufacturers to conduct a study re-
11 garding the safety of minimal contact with wooden curing
12 racks during country ham (as defined in section 319.106
13 of title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (or successor
14 regulations)) curing process.

15 (b) **CONTENT.**—In conducting the study under this
16 section, the Secretary, acting through the Administrator
17 of the Food Safety and Inspection Service, shall assess—

1 (1) whether the phrase “material and construc-
2 tion to facilitate thorough cleaning” used in sub-
3 sections (a) and (b) of section 416.3 of title 9 of the
4 Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regula-
5 tions) applies to such wooden racks and whether the
6 application of such phrase to such wooden racks
7 should be clarified through revised regulations; and

8 (2) the impact of such phrase on the implemen-
9 tation of food safety standards by inspectors of the
10 Food Safety and Inspection Service.

