

Amendment offered by Mr. Vasquez of New Mexico

Amendment description

The amendment would express congressional concern about increased Argentine beef imports and require a USDA report on their impacts on domestic cattle producers, prices, and rural economies.

1 (4) Congress further concludes that any agree-
2 ment to allow increased beef from Argentina into
3 United States markets introduces unfair competition
4 into an already volatile market as this imported beef
5 could depress cattle prices at United States sale
6 barns and have a ripple effect throughout the do-
7 mestic economy affecting feed suppliers, equipment
8 dealers, veterinarians, and other rural businesses.

9 (5) Congress additionally concludes that United
10 States beef production is the safest in the world and
11 that inconsistent enforcement abroad could put
12 American consumers at risk and create an uneven
13 regulatory playing field.

14 (b) REPORT.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
16 after the date on which the United States signs any
17 formal trade agreement with Argentina that includes
18 a change to the tariff rate quotas or other duties on
19 fresh and frozen beef imported from Argentina the
20 Secretary of Agriculture and the United States
21 Trade Representative shall jointly submit to the ap-
22 propriate congressional committees a report on the
23 effect of such imported beef on domestic beef and
24 cattle markets, including—

1 (A) American consumer sentiment about
2 the quality of beef in the United States;

3 (B) impacts on domestic cattle prices;

4 (C) effects on domestic beef prices;

5 (D) changes to the domestic cattle herd
6 size; and

7 (E) rancher sentiments toward expanding
8 their herds.

9 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
10 TEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appro-
11 priate congressional committees” means—

12 (A) the Committee on Agriculture, the
13 Committee on Ways and Means, and the Com-
14 mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
15 resentatives; and

16 (B) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-
17 tion, and Forestry, the Committee on Finance,
18 and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
19 Senate.

