

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17

BY MERTZ

1 A House Concurrent Resolution to urge that the United  
2 States Congress enact and the United States Department  
3 of Agriculture implement measures necessary in order to  
4 allow the interstate sale of meat and poultry products  
5 by state-inspected establishments.

6 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa is a leading  
7 agricultural state in the nation; and

8 WHEREAS, the production and processing of  
9 agricultural commodities represents a key component of  
10 this nation's prosperity; and

11 WHEREAS, an essential part of Iowa's economy, like  
12 many other agricultural states, is the manufacture of  
13 value-added products derived from agricultural  
14 commodities, including the slaughter of livestock and  
15 poultry and the processing of meat and poultry  
16 products; and

17 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa inspects 130 very small  
18 establishments employing 12 to 15 employees where  
19 livestock and poultry are slaughtered or processed and  
20 prepared for custom or retail sale; and

21 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa inspects these  
22 establishments according to strict standards that meet  
23 or exceed federal requirements; and

24 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa will inspect these very  
25 small establishments under a system or process of  
26 proactive controls, including the state "HACCP" system  
27 that includes hazard analysis, identifying critical  
28 control points, establishing critical limits for each  
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1 critical control point, monitoring critical control  
2 point requirements to control processes, and ensuring  
3 corrective action; and

4 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa and its agencies,  
5 including the Department of Agriculture and Land  
6 Stewardship in cooperation with commodity  
7 organizations, are diligently working to ensure that  
8 meat and poultry products sold for human consumption  
9 are safe and wholesome; and

10 WHEREAS, these very small establishments have  
11 developed a close working relationship with Iowa's  
12 Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship in  
13 order to implement HACCP; and

14 WHEREAS, these very small establishments desire to  
15 market safe and wholesome meat and poultry products to  
16 consumers in other states, especially neighboring  
17 states; and

18 WHEREAS, federal law currently allows meat and  
19 poultry products originating from these very small  
20 establishments to be sold within the state's borders;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, this system of state inspection has  
23 ensured that consumers in this state purchase meat and  
24 poultry products inspected according to the highest  
25 standards of safety and wholesomeness; and

26 WHEREAS, the United States Department of  
27 Agriculture at last is considering allowing the sale  
28 of meat and poultry products originating from state-  
29 inspected establishments, including the types of very  
30 small establishments subject to inspection by the

1 State of Iowa; NOW THEREFORE,

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
3 SENATE CONCURRING, That the United States Congress  
4 enact and the United States Department of Agriculture  
5 implement measures necessary in order to allow the  
6 interstate sale of meat and poultry products by state-  
7 inspected establishments; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
9 Resolution be sent by the Secretary of the Senate to  
10 the United States Secretary of Agriculture; the  
11 President of the Senate of the United States; the  
12 Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United  
13 States; the chairman of the United States Senate  
14 Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; the  
15 chairman of the United States House of Representatives  
16 Committee on Agriculture; and members of Iowa's  
17 congressional delegation.

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