

House Concurrent Resolution 7 - Introduced

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY WILLS, STONE, WESTRICH, BRADLEY, JENEARY,
DOLECHECK, FISHER, GRABER, BAXTER, SHIPLEY,
KAUFMANN, and KLEIN

1 A Concurrent Resolution urging the United States
2 Congress to support legislation to amend the
3 Federal Meat Inspection Act to exempt from federal
4 regulation the slaughter and processing of cattle,
5 swine, and other animals produced as part of our
6 food system for intrastate sale.
7 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease, COVID-19, caused
8 by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, is an easily
9 transmissible disease that was identified in 2019 and
10 declared a pandemic in 2020; and
11 WHEREAS, the outbreak of the pandemic has placed at
12 risk food security systems in countries throughout the
13 world; and
14 WHEREAS, in the United States, the continued battle
15 to control the disease has brought into sharp focus
16 the need to maintain and enhance a dependable system
17 of food supply; and
18 WHEREAS, four companies process over 80 percent of
19 American beef, and three companies control 63 percent
20 of this nation's swine processing; and
21 WHEREAS, custom facilities throughout the country
22 are exempt from federal inspection regulations when
23 slaughtering animals for meat and processing meat for
24 the personal consumption of the animal's owner; and
25 WHEREAS, during the 116th Congress, H.R. 2859 and
26 S. 1620 were introduced, known as a the "Processing

1 Revival and Interstate Meat Exemption (PRIME) Act",
2 which would have amended the Federal Meat Inspection
3 Act, and specifically 21 U.S.C. §623; and

4 WHEREAS, the PRIME Act would recognize the freedom
5 and flexibility of states to regulate the sale of
6 custom slaughtered and processed meat within their
7 respective intrastate jurisdictions in a manner
8 compatible with our federal system of government; and

9 WHEREAS, this system of intrastate control over
10 slaughter and processing facilities would result in
11 the sale of meat directly to household customers, as
12 well as to restaurants, hotels, grocery stores, and
13 other food establishments that serve customers in their
14 state; and

15 WHEREAS, this system of intrastate control over
16 slaughter and processing facilities would support
17 small farmers who lack reasonable access to such
18 facilities, improve access to locally produced meats
19 increasingly demanded by consumers, and revitalize
20 rural communities; and

21 WHEREAS, this system of intrastate control over
22 slaughter and processing facilities would strengthen
23 this nation's food supply by increasing the number
24 of slaughter and processing facilities in the United
25 States; NOW THEREFORE,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
27 THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Iowa House of
28 Representatives urges the United States Congress to
29 support the passage of legislation based on the PRIME
30 Act to exempt from federal regulation the slaughter and

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1 processing of cattle, swine, and other animals produced
2 as part of our food system for intrastate sale; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
4 Resolution be sent by the Chief Clerk of the House
5 of Representatives to the President of the Senate
6 of the United States, the Speaker of the House of
7 Representatives of the United States, the Majority and
8 Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, and the
9 Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States
10 House of Representatives; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
12 Resolution be sent by the Chief Clerk of the House of
13 Representatives to Iowa's congressional delegation.