

RESOLUTION 4 — H.F.No. 1093

A resolution memorializing the President and Secretary of Agriculture of the United States to require the government of Canada to comply with the fair trade regulations on hogs, or impose quotas and strict tariffs on Canadian hog imports.

WHEREAS, large numbers of swine from Canada are presently being marketed at terminal livestock markets in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the influx of Canadian swine is largely a result of the very strong United States dollar in relation to the Canadian dollar; and

WHEREAS, Canada subsidizes Canadian hog farmers through reduced freight tariffs, favorable credit terms, provincial and federal direct subsidies, and subsidized feed supplies; and

WHEREAS, the market price for hogs produced in Minnesota is severely depressed because of unfair competition from Canadian hog producers; and

WHEREAS, Canadian policies toward imported hogs are much more strict than United States policies toward the import of Canadian hogs; and

WHEREAS, Canadian requirements concerning the use of antibiotics in livestock feed permit the inclusion of several antibiotics, including chloranphenical, in swine feed, with potentially detrimental effects on the health of the American public; and

WHEREAS, the influx of swine from Canada has disrupted normal marketing practices and eliminated or substantially lowered profit margins by Minnesota hog producers; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota pork producers are already hard pressed by domestic economic conditions and many may be forced out of family farming by unfair competition from Canadian hog producers; and

WHEREAS, the economic failure of Minnesota farm families will result in the financial collapse of even more businesses in small towns; and

WHEREAS, allowing Canada to violate the rules of fair trade and to continue in their discriminatory practices establishes a bad precedent and will send wrong signals to our other trading partners; and

WHEREAS, fair trade is the responsibility of both nations; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the United States must insist on fair and equitable trade regulations with Canada.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if measures of persuasion and reasoning fail to bring about free trade that the United States should impose

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import quotas or strict tariffs on Canadian swine to preserve an equitable and fair trade environment for the hog producers of this state and nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of Minnesota be instructed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved May 8, 1985

RESOLUTION 5 — H.F.No. 1388

A resolution memorializing the President, Congress, and the Secretary of Agriculture to require certain minimum levels of solids-not-fat in fluid milk marketed for direct human consumption.

WHEREAS, fluid milk is an essential part of a well-balanced human diet, especially the diet of children, youth, and older persons; and

WHEREAS, milk contains valuable quantities of calcium, phosphorus, iron, and other necessary nutrients that are easily digested and very economical; and

WHEREAS, the flavor and nutritional content of milk could be substantially enhanced by the establishment of increased minimum levels of milk solids-not-fat in fluid milk sold for direct human consumption; and

WHEREAS, increases in the consumption of fluid milk because of improved taste and nutritional value brought about by the addition of milk solids-not-fat will reduce surplus dairy commodities held in government storage, improve the financial condition of family dairy farms, and assure good health for residents who drink more milk; and

WHEREAS, the legislature has designated milk as the official state drink and it is appropriate for the legislature to take all actions to assure that milk sold and served in the state is as wholesome, tasty, and healthful as possible; and

WHEREAS, minimum required levels of milk solids-not-fat in milk will protect the public from confusion, fraud, and deception while promoting fair and orderly marketing of an essential food; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that the United States Department of Agriculture should include in all milk marketing orders issued or amended after January 1, 1986, a pricing mechanism for whole milk that would properly account for the value of solids-not-fat content.

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