

CHAPTER 208

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 1604

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to allow interstate marketing of state inspected meat.

WHEREAS, The Federal Wholesale Meat Act of 1967 allows states to have state meat inspection programs which are required to meet or exceed federal inspection standards of the United States Department of Agriculture for wholesomeness, cleanliness and food safety; and

WHEREAS, Kansas is in the majority of states which have elected to operate equivalent meat inspection programs allowing state-licensed and state-inspected meat processing facilities to engage in intrastate commerce. Other states are pursuing implementation of state inspection of their meat processing facilities; and

WHEREAS, State meat inspection programs are flexible and can efficiently and safely adapt their activities to small, local meat processors that cannot be duplicated by the federal inspection program because of its size and complexity; and

WHEREAS, State-inspected meat and poultry products are currently barred from interstate commerce under federal law, including neighboring local markets in other states, despite current meat safety and quality assurances, affecting long-range rural development and economic growth strategies within the meat processing industry; and

WHEREAS, Such limitation on marketing of state inspected meat inhibits economic development and value-added agricultural activities in this nation's agricultural sector; and

WHEREAS, Current policy of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture supports the interstate shipment of state-inspected meat products: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Representatives concurring therein:* That we urge the United States Congress to enact revisions to the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to allow the interstate shipment and marketing of meat products by state inspected meat processing facilities; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of State be directed to send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and each member of the Kansas Congressional delegation.

Adopted by the House March 7, 2007.

Adopted by the Senate February 6, 2007.

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