

## House Concurrent Resolution No. 5027

By Committee on Agriculture

3-20

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the President of the United States, the United States Congress and the United States Department of Agriculture to place an immediate and total ban on importation of certain animals and their meat and meat products into the United States.

WHEREAS, Foot-and-mouth disease is a severe, highly communicable viral disease of cattle, swine and sheep and other cloven-footed animals, and it is one of the most difficult animal infections to control; and

WHEREAS, Foot-and-mouth disease spreads widely and rapidly by animals, people or materials that bring the virus into contact with susceptible animals in the United States, so fast that one infected animal can easily contaminate an entire herd; and

WHEREAS, The United States has been free of foot-and-mouth disease since 1929, when the last of nine outbreaks was eradicated; and

WHEREAS, An outbreak in the United States could spread quickly to all sections of the country by routine livestock movement with devastating economic impact on the American livestock industry; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has instituted a temporary ban on the importation of swine and ruminant meat, any fresh swine or ruminant meat (chilled or frozen) and other products of swine and ruminant meat from the European Union and Argentina; and

WHEREAS, Various types of foot-and-mouth virus have been identified in Africa, South America, Asia and parts of Europe; and

WHEREAS, The USDA and customs officials are prohibiting travelers from carrying into the United States any agricultural products, particularly animal products, that could spread the disease; and

WHEREAS, The USDA initiated a public education campaign that includes signs at airports, public service announcements, an information hotline, a website and other tools to inform the public about this issue and to let them know the steps they can take to prevent this disease from entering the United States; and

WHEREAS, The disease is so devastating that Argentina's cattle industry could lose as much as \$500 million in 2001; and

1 WHEREAS, Foot-and-mouth disease could cost the pork and beef  
2 industry and other industries billions of dollars should it reach the United  
3 States: Now, therefore,

4 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas,*  
5 *the Senate concurring therein:* That we urge the President of the United  
6 States, the United States Congress and the United States Department of  
7 Agriculture to place an immediate and total ban on importation of all  
8 cattle, swine and sheep and other cloven-footed animals and their meat  
9 and meat products into the United States; and

10 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of State send an enrolled  
11 copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the President  
12 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of  
13 Representatives and each member of the Kansas Congressional  
14 Delegation.

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