

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5031

By Committee on Agriculture

4-5

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION supporting safeguards to prevent movement of foot and mouth disease and a moratorium on importation of certain animals and products thereof.

WHEREAS, The dramatic increase in the incidence of foot and mouth disease in Europe, and now present on four continents, has prompted the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture to issue warnings to all American citizens, especially those traveling abroad, and to American livestock owners to protect their vital industry; and

WHEREAS, The foot and mouth disease virus can be spread by equipment, vehicles, shoes, clothing, food items or even by surviving for 28 hours in the human respiratory system; and

WHEREAS, Should foot and mouth disease enter the United States, the result would be massive outbreaks of the disease in America, with total disruption of the American food supply; and

WHEREAS, The United States is currently free from foot and mouth disease which is decimating Europe and spreading worldwide: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That we support safeguards to prevent movement of foot and mouth disease on persons, on other animals not directly susceptible to the virus but which could be passive carriers, and on inanimate objects; and

Be it further resolved: That we support a moratorium on all imports of cloven-hoofed animals and products thereof, for a period of three years or until importers can prove that cloven-hoofed animals and products thereof are free of foot and mouth disease for the protection of the American livestock owners; 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 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.