

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. _____

Supporting increased market access and exports of United States beef and beef products to Japan.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. JOHANNIS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Supporting increased market access and exports of United States beef and beef products to Japan.

Whereas in 2003, Japan was the largest market for United States beef, with exports valued at \$1,400,000,000;

Whereas, after the discovery of 1 Canadian-born cow infected with bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) disease in the State of Washington in December of 2003, Japan closed its market to United States beef, and still restricts access to a large number of safe United States beef products;

Whereas for years the Government of the United States has developed and implemented a multilayered system of interlocking safeguards to ensure the safety of American beef, and after the 2003 discovery, the United States implemented further safeguards to ensure beef safety;

Whereas a 2006 study by the United States Department of Agriculture found that BSE was virtually nonexistent in the United States;

Whereas the internationally recognized standard-setting body, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), has classified the United States as a controlled risk country for BSE, which means that United States beef is safe for export and consumption;

Whereas from 2004 through 2009, United States beef exports to Japan averaged roughly \$196,000,000, less than 15 percent of the amount the United States sold to Japan in 2003, causing significant losses for American cattle producers; and

Whereas while Japan remains an important ally and trading partner of the United States, this unscientific trade restriction is not consistent with fair trade practices, nor with United States treatment of Japanese imports: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) it is not in the interest of either the United
3 States or Japan to arbitrarily restrict market access
4 for their close partners;

5 (2) trade between the United States and Japan
6 should be conducted with mutual respect and based
7 on sound science;

8 (3) since banning United States beef in Decem-
9 ber 2003, Japan has not treated United States beef
10 producers fairly;

1 (4) both Japan and the United States should
2 comply with the internationally recognized guidelines
3 set forth by the World Organization for Animal
4 Health;

5 (5) consistent with those standards, Japan
6 should immediately allow the importation of United
7 States bone-in and boneless beef of all ages into
8 Japan; and

9 (6) the Administration should demand that
10 Japan comply fully with the guidelines of the World
11 Organization for Animal Health and immediately
12 grant increased market access for United States beef
13 and beef products by Japan.