

BRIEF OF THE MEAT IMPORTERS' COUNCIL, INC.

INTRODUCTION

The Meat Importers' Council, Inc. of New York, New York (hereinafter called the MIC), is a nationwide trade association chartered under the laws of the State of New York. Membership includes 71 organizations accounting for more than 85 per cent of fresh chilled or frozen beef, veal and mutton imports. Members from affiliated industries include meat and food processors, brokers, port authorities, warehousemen, truckmen, and steamship companies, all of whom have a vital interest in meat and meat food products, particularly imports. A number of our members export substantial quantities of U.S. meat products.

This brief is submitted to register MIC opposition to H.R. 9475, H.R. 9903, and other bills which would place additional restrictions on imported meat.

Since this industry began operating under a quota system in 1964 (Public Law 88-482), it has been concerned with the problems of maintaining adequate supplies of meat and meat products while attempting to maintain an orderly United States market. Meat importers engage in keen competition dictated by ordinary market demands, and constitute an integral part of the United States meat industry.

The existing quota system assures that imported meats covered by Public Law 88-482 cannot exceed a small percentage of total domestic supply. The record shows that the present law is adequate and workable. Domestic cattlemen, feeders, packers