

In light of the above situation the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association would respectfully request that the Committee seriously consider the following adjustments and hope that the Congress would see fit to act upon these in 1968. These suggestions are as follows:

1. To reduce the triggering level of the quota to become operative when the imports equal 100 percent of the established quota versus the existing law which requires the triggering level to be initiated when imports are 110 percent of the quota.

2. To include in the quota canned, cured and cooked meat of all kinds.

3. To establish the quota on a quarterly and/or monthly basis to more equally distribute the availability of imported meat throughout the calendar year.

4. To assure that the foreign meat packers and processors meet in every detail the same anti- and post-mortem inspection procedures, as well as physical layout and material requirements in their plants as is required of the domestic packers and processors resulting from the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967.

The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association believes that these adjustments in the act would insure the continuation for the consumer of an adequate supply of domestic beef as well as allow exporting countries to share in a more equitable fashion in our market.

Yours truly,

T. L. ROACH, Jr., *President.*

VIRGINIA BEEF CATTLE ASSOCIATION,
Harrisonburg, Va., May 24, 1968.

Hon. WILBUR D. MILLS,
Chairman, Ways and Means Committee, House of Representatives, Congress of the United States, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: The membership of our association was pleased to learn that hearings on foreign trade will be held in the Ways and Means committee beginning June 4, 1968.

Of particular interest to our cattle producers are the suggested amendments to the Meat Import Law as passed in 1964. Our membership (3,800 producers) is not opposed to "World Trade" but rather favors further legislation which would, in effect, prevent higher and possibly more erratic importation of beef, veal and their products.

We support, heartily, the earlier proposals of the American National Cattlemen's Association which seek to include canned and cooked beef products ton-nages. Further, it would seem that the 10% "override" in the existing law provides too much room for growth at a time when our producers are making an earnest attempt to get domestic supply in line with effective demand.

Your efforts to give our industry proper consideration are, indeed, appreciated.

Sincerely,

MARTIN F. STRATE, *Executive Secretary.*

WASHINGTON CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION,
Sunnyside, Wash., June 5, 1968.

Re meat import legislation, H.R. 9475.

Hon. WILBUR MILLS,
*Chairman, Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Longworth House Office,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. MILLS: We strongly urge that the beef imports law passed in 1964 be strengthened to the extent that it may become effective in accomplishing the purpose for which it was intended. The cattle industry accepted PL 88482 as better than nothing, or as a step in the right direction. The ineffectiveness of the law in its present form has been demonstrated to the industry month after month for the last three and one-half years.

On the West Coast and Northwest, we are particularly vulnerable to an accelerated influx of foreign beef. You have the facts and figures supplied by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and these figures reveal the alarming story, but not all of it.

What they do not tell is the economic disaster to the industry that is bound to come through the necessity of producing more and more for less and less.