

I would very much appreciate it if this petition were made a part of the hearings to be held by the Committee beginning June 4.

Your cooperation in this matter is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

GERALD R. FORD.

A PETITION TO HON. GERALD FORD, WASHINGTON, D.C., CONGRESSMAN, MICHIGAN EIGHTH DISTRICT

A petition to support and introduce a companion bill to H.R. 6694, to give a measure of protection from excessive duty-free imports to the domestic mink ranching industry.

Since mink ranching is an integral part of the agricultural economy of the DISTRICT and the STATE, and since the industry has been seriously hurt by excessive imports, we request that you actively support this legislation which only assures that we will not lose any more of our domestic market to foreign ranchers who pay no taxes here, pay no labor here, contribute nothing to the area, and elect no public officials here, but do take a FREE RIDE on the extensive market development which our own ranchers have provided for the past many years.

Frankly, we are very disturbed about the manner in which Congress has allowed our agricultural economy to be sacrificed to obtain concessions from other countries of the world for American industrial products.

(The signatures are on file with the Committee on Ways and Means.)

GAFCO, INC.,
New York, N.Y., July 15, 1968.

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

DEAR MR. MILLS: The attempts in Congress to place import quotas on mink furskins can only lead to a deterioration of the fur business in this country, with the attendant loss of income due to a reduction of exports which will follow.

Mink skins have always been sold throughout the world in open auctions, shipments of which went duty free to the countries purchasing same.

Imposition of an import quota by the United States would, as past history has shown, create chaos in our industry. We therefore suggest that you be guided by past experience and vote down any attempt to place a quota on mink fur skins.

Sincerely yours,

LOUIS EDELMAN, Vice President.

IRVING SEGALL,
New York, N.Y., July 11, 1968.

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

DEAR MR. MILLS: As a dealer in both domestic and imported mink fur skins, I am very apprehensive at the endeavours in Congress to place import quotas on foreign mink skins. Since we import mink skins from foreign countries of the varieties that we need and export our American mink skins in the species and colors that foreign countries require, it is in my opinion to the best interests of the United States to encourage the free flow of raw mink skins on a duty free basis rather than curtail such trade by imposing import quotas.

I therefore respectfully urge you to use your good offices to vote against the imposition of import quotas on mink fur skins.

Very truly yours,

IRVING SEGALL.