

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4562

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into appropriate arrangements with the National Academy of Sciences to coordinate the development of recommendations for public policy changes required to implement an improved inspection program for meat and poultry products.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 1994

Mr. STENHOLM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Agriculture

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## **A BILL**

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into appropriate arrangements with the National Academy of Sciences to coordinate the development of recommendations for public policy changes required to implement an improved inspection program for meat and poultry products.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. DEVELOPMENT OF FRAMEWORK FOR IM-**  
2 **PROVED MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION**  
3 **BY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

4 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to pro-  
5 tect the public health by providing for the development  
6 of a detailed framework for an improved meat and poultry  
7 inspection program that is both scientifically reliable and  
8 concentrates on hazards posing the greatest risk to human  
9 health.

10 (b) COORDINATION BY NATIONAL ACADEMY OF  
11 SCIENCES.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the  
12 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall  
13 enter into an agreement with the President of the National  
14 Academy of Sciences, under which the Academy will co-  
15 ordinate the development and evaluation of strategies and  
16 mechanisms for implementing an improved meat and poul-  
17 try inspection program under the jurisdiction of the De-  
18 partment of Agriculture that is both scientifically reliable  
19 and concentrates on hazards posing the greatest risk to  
20 human health.

21 (c) REPORT ON ACTIVITIES.—Not later than six  
22 months after the date on which the agreement is entered  
23 into under subsection (b), the Academy shall submit to  
24 the Secretary of Agriculture and Congress a report de-  
25 scribing the results of the activities conducted pursuant  
26 to the agreement. The report shall include the following:

1           (1) An evaluation of the adequacy of the cur-  
2           rent scientific basis for implementing risk-based  
3           meat and poultry inspection programs using the ap-  
4           proach known as hazard analysis critical control  
5           point. The evaluation shall include an examination of  
6           the adequacy of—

7                   (A) data necessary to evaluate and com-  
8                   pare the public health impacts of current and  
9                   future meat and poultry inspection programs;  
10                  and

11                  (B) current and anticipated biological and  
12                  food science technologies needed to conduct  
13                  risk-based meat and poultry inspection pro-  
14                  grams.

15           (2) If deficiencies are found in the current sci-  
16           entific basis for implementing risk-based meat and  
17           poultry inspection programs, recommendations re-  
18           garding strategies needed to achieve the level of sci-  
19           entific data and technology required to adequately  
20           protect the public health in conducting meat and  
21           poultry inspection programs.

22           (3) Recommendations regarding the manage-  
23           ment structure in the Department of Agriculture  
24           and resources necessary for—

1 (A) training the current meat and poultry  
2 inspection work force to move from a visual in-  
3 spection system to a risk-based inspection sys-  
4 tem; and

5 (B) implementing an effective risk-based  
6 meat and poultry inspection program on a uni-  
7 form basis throughout the United States.

8 (4) A description of the legislative and regu-  
9 latory changes needed to implement the rec-  
10 ommendations required under paragraph (3).

11 (d) FUNDING.—From funds available to the Sec-  
12 retary of Agriculture for fiscal year 1995, the Secretary  
13 may use not more than \$200,000 to carry out this section.

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