

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 258

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and Human Services should work to improve cooperation and eliminate duplication in the area of food safety inspection, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 1, 2001

Mr. SMITH of Michigan (for himself, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. FLETCHER, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. SHAYS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. HOYER, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PITTS, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. KERNS, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. ISSA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COX, Mr. WU, Mr. BARCIA, and Mr. CHABOT) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and Human Services should work to improve cooperation and eliminate duplication in the area of food safety inspection, and for other purposes.

Whereas the Nation’s relatively open borders present difficult challenges to Federal agencies involved in food safety inspection;

Whereas strong concerns exist about the potential for deliberate or unintentional introduction of foodborne pathogens or toxic agents through the food chain;

Whereas the percentage of food imports that are examined for health and safety needs to be increased;

Whereas to prevent and respond to potential contamination of the Nation’s food supply, Federal food safety regulatory agencies need to be prepared to coordinate their activities to act quickly and efficiently to protect the public health; and

Whereas the Department of Agriculture, through the Food Safety Inspection Service and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the Department of Health and Human Services, through the Food and Drug Administration, jointly share in the task of inspecting imported foods: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that the  
 3 Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and  
 4 Human Services should—

5            (1) achieve the highest possible degree of co-  
 6            operation to ensure that the Nation’s consumers re-  
 7            ceive food that is safe; and

8            (2) take steps to ensure that the resources and  
 9            experience of all involved agencies are used as effi-

- 1      ciently as possible to maximize food inspection capa-
- 2      bilities, regardless of agency jurisdiction.

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