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AND OCEANS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

**Give Small American Meat Processors the Same Opportunities  
as 34 Foreign Countries**

**Support H.R. 1760**

Dear Colleague,

Current federal law allows 34 foreign countries to ship meat products anywhere in the United States. Meanwhile, federal law forbids 2,000 small American meat processors from shipping locally-produced, state-inspected meats across state lines. States are essential components to our nation's food safety. They conduct more than 80% of food establishment inspections and provide the expertise and flexibility needed by small meat processors to provide wholesome, high-quality meat products.

To ensure compliance with federal regulations, each state inspection program is annually audited by USDA. There are 125 pages of instructions, regulations, and procedures that state programs must comply with in order to be considered "at least equal to" federal inspection. Meanwhile, foreign plants are scrutinized less frequently than state plants and undergo a one-page checklist to be considered "equivalent to" federal inspection. Current federal law unfairly favors meat products imported from countries like Croatia, Nicaragua, and Romania, than that produced by small American businesses.

H.R. 1760 would remove the interstate shipment ban on state-inspected meat, while ensuring that consumers still receive the same high-quality standards they have come to expect. Help give small American businesses the same opportunities as 34 foreign countries by becoming a cosponsor of H.R. 1760. For more information or to cosponsor, please contact Ryan Nilsestuen at 202-225-5506 or [ryan.nilsestuen@mail.house.gov](mailto:ryan.nilsestuen@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

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