

## House Concurrent Resolution No. 5007

By Committee on Agriculture

1-27

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9 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Depart-  
10 ment of Agriculture to grant companies the necessary permission to  
11 test 100% of their animals to meet market demand.  
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13 WHEREAS, The closure of export markets for American beef at the  
14 end of 2003 has cost the U.S. economy an estimated \$3.3 billion a year;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Many countries which have shut their borders to Amer-  
17 ican beef are demanding significantly increased testing and in some cases,  
18 demanding the testing of all animals; and

19 WHEREAS, Creekstone Farms, a Kansas beef packing company  
20 which normally exports 20% of its beef to Japan, which has banned all  
21 imports of untested beef, is losing approximately \$200,000 a day; and

22 WHEREAS, In response, Creekstone Farms has spent over \$500,000  
23 to build a laboratory and hired scientists, to test over 300,000 of its own  
24 animals to regain its lost market; and

25 WHEREAS, A basic tenet of the American way and a free market  
26 economy is the producer supplying what the consumer is demanding; and

27 WHEREAS, For the U.S. regulatory agency with responsibility to en-  
28 sure the safety of American beef products to give permission to relax  
29 testing standards would be unacceptable, but to not give a company the  
30 authority to exceed such standards is nonsensical in light of this difficult  
31 time for American beef producers; and

32 WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Kansas does not dispute  
33 the USDA contention that 100% testing for BSE is not necessary for  
34 protecting health and should not be mandatory; and

35 WHEREAS, To deny a small specialty firm the right to voluntarily test  
36 all its animals to meet the legitimate demands of one of its best customers  
37 is inappropriate, especially with regard to current market conditions; and

38 WHEREAS, The USDA should not ban contractual agreements be-  
39 tween a willing buyer and a willing seller when such agreements do not  
40 hurt consumers and help the American economy: Now, therefore,

41 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas,*  
42 *the Senate concurring therein:* That we urge the United States Depart-  
43 ment of Agriculture to allow Creekstone Farms and other beef producers

1 to test 100% of its beef for BSE to satisfy its customers and open markets  
2 to American beef; and  
3 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of State be directed to send  
4 enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States  
5 and the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture.