

House Resolution No. 6018

By Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

2-24

9 A RESOLUTION supporting a review, investigation and enforcement of
10 the antitrust laws in relation to the marketing opportunities available
11 to independent livestock producers.

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13 WHEREAS, United States beef directly competes with pork and poul-
14 try; and

15 WHEREAS, Beef prices are influenced by pork and poultry; and

16 WHEREAS, Demand for beef is influenced by supply and price of
17 pork and poultry; and

18 WHEREAS, Cattle prices continually decrease while retail prices re-
19 main the highest ever; and

20 WHEREAS, 88% of beef is controlled by four major companies, Tyson
21 Foods, Cargill, JBS and National Beef Packing Company; and

22 WHEREAS, 66% of pork is controlled by four major packers, Tyson
23 Foods, Cargill, JBS and Smithfield Foods; and

24 WHEREAS, 52% of poultry broilers are controlled by two companies,
25 Tyson Foods and JBS; and

26 WHEREAS, 55% of the turkey industry is controlled by four compa-
27 nies, Butterball LLC, Hormel Foods, Cargill and Sara Lee; and

28 WHEREAS, Companies controlling beef, poultry and pork have a pro-
29 tein monopsony: Now, therefore,

30 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:*
31 That the Legislature of the State of Kansas appeals to the Kansas Con-
32 gressional Delegation, Department of Justice, the Congress of the United
33 States of America and the President of the United States of America, to
34 review, investigate and enforce the antitrust laws and Packers and Stock-
35 yards Act in relation to the inhibited marketing opportunities available to
36 independent livestock producers as it relates to the monopsony of the
37 protein industry; and

38 *Be it further resolved:* That the Chief Clerk of the House of Repre-
39 sentatives be directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the
40 Department of Justice and the Kansas Congressional Delegation.