

1 *Senate* BILL NO. *386*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Foster Ferguson Conover Graham*  
 3 *Walt E. Smith*

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING IMPORTED  
 5 MEATS TO BE LABELED AS SUCH IN FOOD STORES, PROVIDING A  
 6 PENALTY."

7  
 8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9 Section 1. Stores to label imported meats. Any  
 10 grocery store or similar establishment selling fresh meat at  
 11 retail shall ascertain the origin of all fresh meat which it  
 12 offers for sale. If such meat was produced outside the  
 13 United States of America, the store shall place the words  
 14 "FOREIGN MEAT" in prominent letters upon the package in  
 15 which such meat is sold to the consumer.

16 Section 2. A person in charge of a grocery store or  
 17 similar establishment who fails to label foreign meat as  
 18 required by this act commits a misdemeanor, and upon  
 19 conviction shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars  
 20 (\$100) nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

-End-

SB 386

INTRODUCED BILL

Approved by Committee  
on Business and Industry

1 SENATE BILL NO. 386

2 INTRODUCED BY POSTER, JERGESON, CONOVER,

3 GRAHAM, GALT, E. SMITH

4

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING IMPORTED  
6 MEATS TO BE LABELED AS SUCH IN FOOD STORES, AND PROVIDING A  
7 PENALTY."

8

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10 Section 1. Stores to label imported meats. Any  
11 grocery store or similar establishment selling fresh meat at  
12 retail shall ascertain the origin of all fresh meat which it  
13 offers for sale. If such meat was produced outside the  
14 United States of America, the store shall place the words  
15 "FOREIGN MEAT" OR "MEAT FROM (COUNTY OF ORIGIN)" in  
16 prominent letters upon the package in which such meat is  
17 sold to the consumer.

18 Section 2. A person in charge of a grocery store or  
19 similar establishment who fails to label foreign meat KNOWN  
20 BY HIM TO BE FOREIGN MEATS as required by this act commits a  
21 misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less  
22 than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than two hundred  
23 fifty dollars (\$250).

-End-

SB 386

SECOND READING

1 SENATE BILL NO. 386

2 INTRODUCED BY FOSTER, JERGESON, CONOVER,

3 GRAHAM, GALT, E. SMITH

4  
5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING IMPORTED  
6 MEATS TO BE LABELED AS SUCH IN FOOD STORES, AND PROVIDING A  
7 PENALTY."

8  
9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10 Section 1. Stores to label imported meats -- SUPPLIER  
11 TO FURNISH INFORMATION. Any grocery store or similar  
12 establishment selling fresh meat at retail shall ascertain  
13 the origin of all fresh meat which it offers for sale, AND  
14 SUCH INFORMATION MUST BE PROVIDED BY THE SUPPLIER OF SUCH  
15 MEAT AT THE TIME OF DELIVERY. If such meat was produced  
16 outside the United States of America, the store shall place  
17 the words "FOREIGN MEAT" OR "MEAT FROM (COUNTRY COUNTRY OF  
18 ORIGIN)" in prominent letters upon the package in which such  
19 meat is sold to the consumer.

20 Section 2. A person in charge of a grocery store or  
21 similar establishment ~~who fails to label foreign meat--KNOWN~~  
22 ~~BY--HIM--TO--BE--FOREIGN--MEATS~~ as required by OR A SUPPLIER OF  
23 FRESH MEAT WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS  
24 ACT BY WILLFULLY FAILING TO LABEL FOREIGN MEAT OR PROVIDE  
25 INFORMATION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF this act commits a

1 misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less  
2 than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than two hundred  
3 fifty dollars (\$250).

4 SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. IF A PART OF THIS ACT IS  
5 INVALID, ALL VALID PARTS THAT ARE SEVERABLE FROM THE INVALID  
6 PART REMAIN IN EFFECT. IF A PART OF THIS ACT IS INVALID IN  
7 ONE OR MORE OF ITS APPLICATIONS, THE PART REMAINS IN EFFECT  
8 IN ALL VALID APPLICATIONS THAT ARE SEVERABLE FROM THE  
9 INVALID APPLICATIONS.

-End-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Date: March 17, 1975

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY AMENDMENTS TO SB 386

1. Amend page 1, section 1, line 12.

Following: "shall"

Insert: ", if possible,"

2. Amend page 1, section 1, lines 13 and 14.

Following: "sale"

Strike: "AND SUCH"

Insert: "Such"

3. Amend page 1, section 1, line 14.

Following: "INFORMATION"

Strike: "MUST"

Insert: "shall"

4. Amend page 1, section 1, line 15.

Following: "DELIVERY"

Insert: ", if reasonably available to the supplier"

5. Amend page 1, section 1, line 19.

Following: "consumer."

Insert: "If the country of origin or foreign meat is unknown, the words "COUNTRY OF ORIGIN UNKNOWN" shall be placed upon the package in like manner."

6. Amend page 2, following line 3.

Insert: a new section 3 to read as follows and renumber the subsequent section:

"Section 3. The legislature finds that sanitary meat inspection standards in other meat producing

Page 2

nations cannot be guaranteed to be equal to the standards applied to the inspection of American meat, and declares that the purpose of this act is to protect the public health and safety by placing Montana consumers on notice of the possibility of lower inspection standards in such other nations."

AND AS SO AMENDED

BE CONCURRED IN

WM/gtw

March 26, 1975

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee of the Whole Amendments to SENATE BILL NO. 386, third reading copy, as follows:

Amend page 1, Section 1, line 15

1. Following: "DELIVERY."

Strike: "If such"

Insert: "On"

2. Following: "meat"

Strike: "was"

AND AS SO AMENDED

BE CONCURRED IN

SENATE BILL NO. 386

INTRODUCED BY FOSTER, JERGESON, CONOVER,

GRAHAM, GALT, E. SMITH

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING IMPORTED MEATS TO BE LABELED AS SUCH IN FOOD STORES, AND PROVIDING A PENALTY."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Stores to label imported meats -- SUPPLIER TO FURNISH INFORMATION. Any grocery store or similar establishment selling fresh meat at retail shall, IF POSSIBLE, ascertain the origin of all fresh meat which it offers for sale. ~~AND SUCH. SUCH INFORMATION MUST~~ SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE SUPPLIER OF SUCH MEAT AT THE TIME OF DELIVERY, IF REASONABLY AVAILABLE TO THE SUPPLIER. ~~If--such~~ ON meat ~~was~~ produced outside the United States of America, the store shall place the words "FOREIGN MEAT" OR "MEAT FROM (COUNTRY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN)" in prominent letters upon the package in which such meat is sold to the consumer. IF THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF FOREIGN MEAT IS UNKNOWN, THE WORDS "COUNTRY OF ORIGIN UNKNOWN" SHALL BE PLACED UPON THE PACKAGE IN LIKE MANNER.

Section 2. A person in charge of a grocery store or similar establishment ~~who fails to label foreign meat--KNOWN~~

~~BY HIM-TO-BE-FORIGN-MEATS~~ as-required-by OR A SUPPLIER OF FRESH MEAT WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT BY WILLFULLY FAILING TO LABEL FOREIGN MEAT OR PROVIDE INFORMATION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF this act commits a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

SECTION 3. THE LEGISLATURE FINDS THAT SANITARY MEAT INSPECTION STANDARDS IN OTHER MEAT PRODUCING NATIONS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED TO BE EQUAL TO THE STANDARDS APPLIED TO THE INSPECTION OF AMERICAN MEAT, AND DECLARES THAT THE PURPOSE OF THIS ACT IS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY BY PLACING MONTANA CONSUMERS ON NOTICE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF LOWER INSPECTION STANDARDS IN SUCH OTHER NATIONS.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY. IF A PART OF THIS ACT IS INVALID, ALL VALID PARTS THAT ARE SEVERABLE FROM THE INVALID PART REMAIN IN EFFECT. IF A PART OF THIS ACT IS INVALID IN ONE OR MORE OF ITS APPLICATIONS, THE PART REMAINS IN EFFECT IN ALL VALID APPLICATIONS THAT ARE SEVERABLE FROM THE INVALID APPLICATIONS.

-End-