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H. CON. RES. 12

Expressing the sense of Congress that all direct and indirect subsidies that benefit the production or export of sugar by all major sugar-producing and -consuming countries should be eliminated.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2023

Mrs. CAMMACK (for herself, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that all direct and indirect subsidies that benefit the production or export of sugar by all major sugar-producing and -consuming countries should be eliminated.

Whereas most major sugar-producing and sugar-consuming countries in the world maintain some form of direct or indirect subsidy to support its sugar growers, processors, or consumers;

Whereas virtually all of the more than 100 countries that produce sugar maintain market-distorting subsidy programs, including—

(1) the Government of Brazil which provides direct and indirect subsidies of at least \$2,500,000,000 per year for programs to promote its sugar industry and has increased subsidies in recent years, including preferential loans and debt forgiveness;

(2) the Government of India which provided nearly \$14,000,000,000 per year in subsidy supports as recently as 2018 to prop up its inefficient sugar industry, including the provision of export subsidies in 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019, and 2020 in potential violation of World Trade Organization obligations;

(3) the Government of Thailand which more than tripled its sugar exports after 2004 by providing at least \$1,300,000,000 in annual subsidies and government programs to its sugar industry and by maintaining domestic prices well above export prices;

(4) the Governments of the European Union member states which have provided support with an estimated value of \$685,000,000 per year to their sugar farmers;

(5) the Government of Russia which transformed its country from one of the world's largest net importers of sugar to a net exporter on the basis of government support estimated at an estimated value of \$392,000,000 per year from 2010 to 2017; and

(6) the Government of Mexico which has generously supported its sugarcane growers, and was found guilty in 2014 of injuring United States sugar producers by dumping subsidized sugar into the United States market;

Whereas the world sugar market is the most volatile commodity market in the world;

Whereas many countries routinely dump surplus sugar on the world sugar market, at prices below domestic price levels and costs of production;

Whereas the foregoing clauses provide ample evidence there is no undistorted, free market in sugar in the world today; and

Whereas, if such a free market did exist, United States sugar farmers and processors could compete effectively in that market: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),* That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the President should seek elimination of all
4 direct and indirect subsidies benefiting the produc-
5 tion or export of sugar by the government of—

6 (A) each country that exported more than
7 200,000 metric tons of sugar in 2018, 2019, or
8 2020; and

9 (B) by any other country with which the
10 United States has in effect a free trade agree-
11 ment;

12 (2) if the President determines that all such
13 subsidies by all such countries have been eliminated,
14 the President should submit a report to Congress
15 providing detailed information about how each of the
16 countries has eliminated such subsidies; and

1 (3) after submitting such a report, the Presi-
2 dent should propose to Congress legislation to imple-
3 ment United States sugar policy reforms.

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