

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2884

To delay the implementation of a rule relating to the importation of sheep and goats and products derived from sheep and goats, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. ROUNDS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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## A BILL

To delay the implementation of a rule relating to the importation of sheep and goats and products derived from sheep and goats, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. DELAYED IMPLEMENTATION OF RULE RELAT-**  
4 **ING TO IMPORTATION OF SHEEP AND GOATS**  
5 **AND PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM SHEEP AND**  
6 **GOATS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on  
8 the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the  
9 date that is 1 year after the date on which the report is

1 submitted under subsection (b), the Secretary of Agri-  
2 culture, and any other Federal official, may not finalize,  
3 implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rule enti-  
4 tled “Importation of Sheep, Goats, and Certain Other  
5 Ruminants” (81 Fed. Reg. 46619) and dated July 18,  
6 2016.

7 (b) STUDY AND REPORT.—

8 (1) STUDY.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agri-  
10 culture shall conduct a study on the potential  
11 costs and benefits of the rule referred to in sub-  
12 section (a).

13 (B) CONTENTS.—The study required by  
14 subparagraph (A) shall assess—

15 (i) the estimated amount of sheep and  
16 goat meat imported into the United States  
17 as a result of the implementation of the  
18 rule referred to in subsection (a);

19 (ii) the estimated increase in the num-  
20 ber of live sheep and goats imported into  
21 the United States as a result of the rule;

22 (iii) the estimated demand for sheep  
23 and goat meat in the United States during  
24 the 10-year period beginning on the date

1 of the enactment of this Act, disaggregated  
2 by region and State;

3 (iv) the impact of the COVID–19 pan-  
4 demic on the economic data and market  
5 conditions for imports of sheep and goat  
6 meat and live sheep and goats;

7 (v) the potential effects of the rule  
8 on—

9 (I) the supply and prices of live  
10 sheep and goats in the United States;

11 (II) producers of and markets for  
12 live sheep and goats in the United  
13 States, disaggregated by region and  
14 State;

15 (III) export opportunities for  
16 United States producers of sheep and  
17 goat meat;

18 (IV) the competitiveness of the  
19 sheep and goat industries in the  
20 United States;

21 (V) consumer confidence in sheep  
22 and goat meat;

23 (VI) the health of sheep and goat  
24 herds in the United States; and

1 (VII) disease outbreaks across  
2 species of animals;

3 (vi) the estimated amount of direct  
4 payments made by foreign countries to  
5 producers of live sheep and goats in such  
6 countries as a result of the implementation  
7 of the rule referred to in subsection (a);  
8 and

9 (vii) any negative impacts that could  
10 result from the implementation of the rule  
11 referred to in subsection (a) not covered by  
12 clauses (i) through (vi).

13 (2) REPORT.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year  
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
16 Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the  
17 committees specified in subparagraph (B) a re-  
18 port that includes—

19 (i) an analysis of the results of the  
20 study conducted under paragraph (1); and

21 (ii) recommendations for changes to  
22 the rule referred to in subsection (a) to  
23 eliminate or mitigate any negative effects  
24 of the implementation of the rule.

1 (B) COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The com-  
2 mittees specified in this subparagraph are—

3 (i) the Committee on Agriculture, Nu-  
4 trition, and Forestry, the Committee on  
5 Foreign Relations, the Committee on Fi-  
6 nance, and the Committee on Homeland  
7 Security and Governmental Affairs of the  
8 Senate; and

9 (ii) the Committee on Agriculture, the  
10 Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the  
11 Committee on Oversight and Reform of the  
12 House of Representatives.

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