

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0254-21_

SPONSOR: Edmund Yazzie

TITLE: An Action Relating to the Resources and Development and Naabik'iyáti Committees; Supporting United States Senate Bill S. 2716 Titled "America Beef Labeling Act of 2021"

Date posted: November 24, 2021 at 1:37PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0254-21

DATE: November 19, 2021

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTÍ COMMITTEES; SUPPORTING UNITED STATES SENATE BILL S. 2716 TITLED "AMERICA BEEF LABELING ACT OF 2021"


PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will provide Navajo Nation support for passage of Senate Bill S. 2716 titled "America Beef Labeling Act of 2021".

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each committee member to review the proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: _____
Posting End Date: 11-29-21
Eligible for Action: 11-30-21

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL — Third Year, 2021

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 
5 _____
6 Primary Sponsor

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8 TRACKING NO. 0254-21

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10 AN ACTION
11 RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND
12 NAABIK'ÍYÁTÍ COMMITTEES; SUPPORTING UNITED STATES SENATE
13 BILL S. 2716 TITLED "AMERICA BEEF LABELING ACT OF 2021"

14
15 WHEREAS:

- 16 A. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United
17 States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.
- 18 B. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation with the
19 responsibility and authority to promulgate policies of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§
20 102(A) and 164(A).
- 21 C. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council
22 with the authority and responsibility to hear and act on all resolutions that require
23 final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §§ 164 (A)(9) and 700 (A).
- 24 D. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo
25 Nation Council with oversight authority over grazing, agriculture, livestock, etc. and
26 the authority and responsibility to coordinate with the President of the Navajo Nation
27 and appropriate Divisions or Programs to lobby the state, federal, and other agencies
28 related to the Committee's oversight. 2 N.N.C. §§ 500 (A), (C), and (B)(6)(a).
- 29 E. Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (M-COOL) for beef enables United States
30 cattle producers to compete in the retail grocery market by empowering consumers to

1 choose to purchase their superior born, raised, and harvested in the USA beef product,
2 or to choose a foreign beef product imported from any one of the approximately 20
3 countries from which the U.S. imports beef and/or cattle.

4 F. When U.S. consumers choose to purchase an exclusively U.S. beef product, the
5 demand for cattle exclusively born and raised in the United States increases.

6 G. Without M-COOL, multinational beef packers and other importers can manage the
7 demand for cattle exclusively born and raised in the United States by offering
8 consumers substitute beef products sourced from foreign sources without the
9 consumer's knowledge.

10 H. Such is the case in today's beef market as the U.S. Department of Agriculture
11 estimated in 2012 that 18% of the available beef in the U.S. market is sourced either
12 as an imported beef product or from imported cattle converted to beef in a U.S.
13 packing plant.

14
15 **THREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

16 A. The Navajo Nation Council supports United States Senate Bill S.2716 titled "The
17 American Beef Labeling Act of 2021", attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, and encourages
18 all U.S. Senators and Representatives to cosponsor and quickly pass this measure so
19 U.S. consumers can begin choosing from where they want their beef produced and so
20 U.S. cattle producers can effectively compete in the domestic market with lower-cost
21 and undifferentiated imported beef products that currently function as direct
22 substitutes for beef exclusively sourced from cattle born and raised in the United
23 States.

24 B. The Navajo Nation Council hereby authorizes the Speaker of the Navajo Nation
25 Council, President of the Navajo Nation, and their designees, to support United States
26 Senate Bill S. S.2716 titled "The American Beef Labeling Act of 2021".
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