

06/26/2003 Entry: "Kansas Cattlemen's Association Awaits House Appropriations Decision"

Washington, DC-The Kansas Cattlemen's Association is anxiously awaiting the outcome of the House Appropriations Committee on whether or not to fund country of origin labeling (COOL) for meats and meat products. The House Appropriations Committee met on Wednesday, June 25th, 2003 but failed to take up such legislation and is not expected to do so until after the Independence Day holiday.

Funding for COOL came into jeopardy recently when Representative Henry Bonilla (R-TX), chairman of the House Appropriations Sub-committee on Agriculture introduced legislation that read "None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this act shall be used to propose or issue rules, regulations, decrees, or orders for the purpose of implementation or in preparation for implementation of country of origin labeling for meat or meat products." Bonilla's legislation passed out of the subcommittee on a voice vote.

The sub-committee vote set off a barrage of phone calls, emails and faxes to Appropriations Committee members from COOL supporters across the United States urging them to vote against Congressman Bonilla's bill. Supporters of COOL are encouraged to continue to contact Appropriations Committee members and encourage them to vote against Congressman Bonilla and keep country of origin labeling intact.

June 23, 2003
Ashlea Redding
877-694-2906
aredding@st-tel.net