



State Agriculture and Rural Leaders

2013-6 Resolution on Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling

Passed June 9, 2013

- Whereas,** the State Ag and Rural Leaders, (SARL) is comprised of agriculture and rural leaders of state and provincial legislative bodies from the US and Canada; and
- Whereas,** the United States and Canada are each other's best trading partners and the growth of two way trade should be encouraged as it is beneficial to both countries; and
- Whereas,** the U.S. mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (mCOOL) has been found by the World Trade Organization to discriminate against imported livestock creating challenges for Canadian cattle and hog producers; and
- Whereas,** the mCOOL law is jeopardizing the viability of US packing and US feeding infrastructure, placing local and state economies at risk; and
- Whereas,** mCOOL is undermining North American competitiveness in the global market; and
- Whereas,** the Canadian Ministers of Agriculture and International Trade have stated their intention to apply retaliatory tariffs on US exports to Canada in response to mCOOL; now therefore be it
- Resolved,** that SARL encourages the United States Congress to implement a legislative resolution that will build markets for U.S. products at home and overseas rather than implement additional regulations and requirements for our meat producers and processors; and be it further
- Resolved,** that this resolution be submitted to the members of the house and senate agriculture committees, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other state and federal officials as it is deemed necessary.