Food Safety and Security

H.R. 417 / S. 2019 – Ending Agricultural TradeSuppression (EATS) Act

Introduced: 6/30/2023

Lead Sponsor: Rep. Ashley Hinson (R-IA) / Sen. Roger Marshall (R-KS)

Short Title: Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act Introduced: 06/30/2023 in House and 06/15/2023 in Senate Latest Action: Proponents of the EATS Act in the House and Senate have been pushing for the EATS Act to be included in the Farm Bill. A narrowed version which only applies to livestock has been included in the House Farm Bill. Senate Farm Bill text has yet to be released.

Cosponsors:

House Version: 37 (37-0 Republican) Senate Version: 14 (14-0 Republican)

Endorsements: Members of Congress and external groups who have come out against the EATS Act can be found here.

Summary: The EATS Act unwinds the results of ballot initiatives and state laws across the country that mandate more humane treatment of livestock. These laws have created premium markets for small and independent producers which help them compete against the powerful meatpackers. The National Pork Producers Council and Chinese-owned Smithfield are pushing this bill through Congress after the Supreme Court ruled that these state laws could not be undone. The bill is a massive federal overreach and would accelerate the demise of food quality and food choice in America while ensuring further Chinese control of American agriculture.