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June 1, 2015

The Honorable K. Michael Conaway
U. S. House of Representatives
2430 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Conaway:

Texas Farm Bureau supports H.R. 2393, the *Country of Origin Labeling Amendments Act of 2015*.

Recently, the World Trade Organization ruled against our Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) requirements for beef and pork for the fourth time. It is obvious to our organization this program is incompatible with our WTO obligations. Agricultural trade with our two largest trading partners and neighbors will be harmed when Canada and Mexico impose \$2 billion worth of retaliatory tariffs against U.S. goods as a result of this ruling.

Farm Bureau has supported COOL in the past. However, thorough economic analyses commissioned by the USDA indicate little positive economic benefit to ranchers and farmers from this program and a whole host of added costs to the marketing stream. Those added costs do not benefit consumers. This program has not served its intended purpose and should be repealed for beef, pork, and poultry before U.S. farmers and ranchers suffer from tariff retaliation.

We urge you to vote for H.R. 2393.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Boening
President

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