



# Enhanced Feed Ban

## ***Prohibitive Costs and No Safety Benefits***

### **What is the Feed Ban?**

Since 1997, the U.S. has prohibited ruminant feed from including parts of other ruminants. This is known as the ruminant-to-ruminant feed ban.

This proactive feed ban helps protect the U.S. cattle herd from Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).

**This system is working.** The U.S. has an extremely low risk of BSE.

The enhanced feed ban will prohibit certain cattle-derived risk materials from **all animal feed**, despite the fact that doing so provides negligible safety benefits. What it does is create tremendous costs, exacerbate disposal issues, and generate environmental concerns.



### **Why Change A Successful System?**

The U.S. has an extremely low level of risk from BSE, as demonstrated by robust USDA surveillance and confirmed by our “controlled risk” designation by the World Organization for Animal Health.

For two decades, industry and government have worked together to put in place science-based measures which have been successful in reducing the spread of BSE in the U.S.

What’s more, cases of BSE have dramatically diminished worldwide due to many measures, including a series of interlocking safeguards and science-based mitigation practices.

The enhanced feed ban failed to pass a cost/benefit analysis and has not demonstrated statistically valid improvements to animal health.

### **The enhanced feed ban will cause more problems than it solves**

#### **FDA admits this rule:**

- ▶ Creates a new inedible waste stream that we cannot accommodate or dispose.
- ▶ Will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small farmers and ranchers
- ▶ Will cause disposal problems for which there currently are no solutions
- ▶ Has the potential for collateral negative impact on other industry sectors like livestock auctions and meat processors
- ▶ Will cause environmental difficulties, especially in areas where there are no rendering services available
- ▶ Will generate an estimated additional 28 million pounds of prohibited cattle-derived material at the slaughter plant level

**Agricultural policy should be based on sound scientific and economic principles.**

**Act now to oppose the Enhanced Feed Ban!**

### **Harmful to America’s Beef Producers**

FDA estimates this rule will cost producers \$28-39 million per year.

Because of increases in production costs and diminished market value of finished rendered products, the cost of the enhanced ban may now be even greater than originally estimated.

Renderers across the country stopped picking up dead livestock as early as December 2008 because of this rule.

Those continuing their services have doubled or tripled their fees.

The rule causes significant economic and environmental concerns for producers that no can no longer properly dispose of carcasses.

There is no simple fix for these disposal issues—producers can’t just bury 1200 pound animals in their backyard.

### **No Trade Benefits**

The Enhanced Feed Ban was proposed as a way to regain unrestricted and fully normalized access to the South Korean beef market.

This benefit has not been realized!

Even if the enhanced feed ban did help increase market access, the economic benefits would not outweigh the cost of this rule on the U.S. beef industry.