

SENATE BILL REPORT

SJM 8048

As of February 4, 2004

Brief Description: Requesting compliance with the labeling requirements in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

Sponsors: Senators Rasmussen and Swecker.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Agriculture: 2/5/04.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Staff: Bob Lee (786-7404)

Background: Country of origin labeling requirements were extended to agricultural commodities such as fresh fruits and vegetables, red meats, fish and peanuts by Congress in 2002. That legislation requires that the United States Department of Agriculture adopt voluntary guidelines by September 30, 2002, and mandatory requirements by September 30, 2004.

Congress is considering delaying portions of the country of origin labeling requirements for an additional two-year period.

Summary of Bill: Congress is requested to move forward with country of origin labeling requirements on the original schedule established by Congress in 2002.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.