

## EXTENDING THE TIME DURING WHICH CERTAIN DOMESTIC ANIMALS WHICH HAVE CROSSED THE BOUNDARY LINE MAY BE RETURNED DUTY FREE

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MAY 13 (calendar day, MAY 16, 1935).—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. HARRISON, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 6143]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6143) to extend the time during which domestic animals which have crossed the boundary line into foreign countries may be returned duty free, having considered the same, report favorably thereon and recommend that the bill do pass.

A full explanation of the bill is contained in the attached report made by the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives.

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[H. Rept. No. 831, 74th Cong., 1st sess.]

The Committee on Ways and Means, having had under consideration H. R. 6143, extending the time during which certain domestic animals which have crossed the boundary line may be returned duty free, report the same back to the House favorably with the recommendation that it be passed with the following amendments:

In line 10, after the comma following the word "animals", insert the words "whether or not accompanying the parent animals."

In line 11 strike out the word "heretofore" and the words "Or" and "hereafter" in line 12.

These amendments are in accordance with the suggestions contained in the letters of the Secretary of the Treasury, which are attached hereto and made a part of this report.

#### GENERAL STATEMENT

Provision is made by the Tariff Act of 1930 for the return duty free of domestic animals which have crossed the boundary line into foreign countries within a period of 8 months from the time such animals strayed or were driven across the boundary.

The recent severe and prolonged drought throughout the Southwest has necessitated the taking to Mexico of large numbers of cattle and sheep for temporary pasturage purposes and the time specified by the act and the regulations has proven too short to give the relief sought by the owners by taking their stock to Mexico. The purpose of the bill under consideration is to permit the return duty free at any time before June 30, 1936.

Your committee is advised that there were approximately 42,000 head of cattle moved into Mexico last year from western Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, and that most of the ranges from which these cattle were moved are still in the drought and dust-ridden areas.

This extension of time in which these cattle may be returned duty free is strongly urged by the stockmen of the States affected, as well as by the receiver of the First National Bank of El Paso, on behalf of the Government which either owns or has a lien on approximately one-third of the cattle involved. This extension is also approved by the executive committee of the American Live Stock Association in order to conserve these herds and allow sufficient time for the rehabilitation of the ranges from which these cattle were moved.

The letters of the Secretary of the Treasury, above referred to, are as follows:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, May 3, 1935.

HON. ROBERT L. DOUGHTON,  
Chairman Committee on Ways and Means,  
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I refer to your request of April 26, 1935, for such comment and recommendation as I may care to make with respect to H. R. 6143, a bill to extend the time during which domestic animals which have crossed the boundary line into foreign countries may be returned duty free.

This bill is identical in language with S. 1617, which was introduced in the Senate on February 4, 1935. I enclose for your information a copy of the Department's report on March 13 on S. 1617.

If H. R. 6143 is amended in accordance with the suggestions set forth in my report on S. 1617, it is not believed that it will present any new administrative difficulties.

Very truly yours,

H. MORGENTHAU, Jr.,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, March 13, 1935.

HON. PAT HARRISON,  
Chairman Committee on Finance, United States Senate.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I refer to your communication of February 5, 1935, requesting a report on S. 1617, a bill to extend the time during which domestic animals which have crossed the boundary line into foreign countries may be returned duty free.

This bill, if enacted into law, would provide for the free entry of horses, mules, asses, cattle, sheep, and other domestic animals which stray or are driven across the boundary line into a foreign country for temporary pasturage purposes only prior to November 1, 1935, and the offspring and increase of such animals if brought into the United States prior to June 30, 1936.

This bill is similar to Joint Resolution 101 of the Sixty-seventh Congress, 2 and 52 of the Sixty-eighth Congress, and 29 of the Sixty-ninth Congress, and is similar in purpose to House Joint Resolution 142, introduced into the present Congress by the Hon. R. E. Thomason and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives, United States.

It is noted that the bill as drafted would also authorize the free entry of the offspring and increase of domestic animals straying across the boundary line into a foreign country or driven across such boundary line for temporary pasturage purposes only prior to November 1, 1935. If it is intended to authorize the free entry of the offspring and increase of such animals born while abroad, whether or not they accompany the parent animals, it is believed that there should be inserted in line 10 of the bill after the comma following the word "animals", the following clause or words of similar import, "whether or not accompanying the parent animals."

As the customs regulations now in force are not consistent with all the provisions of the proposed bill, it is suggested that the word "heretofore" in line 1 of page 2, and the words "or" and "hereafter" in line 2 of page 2 be deleted.

If the bill is amended in accordance with the foregoing suggestions, I do not believe it will present any new administrative difficulties.

Very truly yours,

H. MORGENTHAU, Jr.,  
Secretary of the Treasury.