

103D CONGRESS
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S. RES. 12

Expressing the sense of the Senate that meaningful reforms with respect to agricultural subsidies must be achieved in the GATT negotiations.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 21 (legislative day, JANUARY 5), 1993

Mr. PRESSLER (for himself, Mr. HEFLIN, and Mr. WALLOP) submitted the following resolution; which was received, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that meaningful reforms with respect to agricultural subsidies must be achieved in the GATT negotiations.

Whereas in 1986, negotiations on an international agreement to reform the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (hereafter in this resolution referred to as “GATT”) began in Punta del Este, Uruguay, with a targeted conclusion date of December 1990;

Whereas the United States and other major agricultural exporting nations insisted from the start on significant reductions in the subsidy programs operated by the European Community under its Common Agricultural Policy;

Whereas in December 1990, after the European Community decided against reducing the subsidy programs of its

Common Agricultural Policy, no international agricultural subsidy reduction agreement was reached;

Whereas in November 1991, the European Community indicated some willingness to reduce its export subsidies during the GATT negotiations;

Whereas in November 1992, the European Community agreed to certain reductions in its export subsidies;

Whereas American agriculture has a long tradition of supporting international efforts to achieve more open markets and fairer rules governing world agricultural trade;

Whereas the support of United States farmers and ranchers for multilateral and other trade negotiations depends on the success of the Uruguay Round GATT negotiations in achieving agricultural subsidy reductions in the European Community; and

Whereas any agreement under the GATT that is not supported by American farmers and ranchers would not be acceptable to the Congress: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that any
2 agreement regarding proposed changes to the GATT
3 must—

4 (1) achieve the elimination or substantial reduction
5 of export subsidies as a means of disposing of
6 agricultural surpluses in the world market;

7 (2) achieve new and expanded foreign market
8 opportunities for United States farm products;

9 (3) ensure the European Community does not
10 offset possible reductions in its agricultural export

1 subsidies by adopting programs, such as variable lev-
2 ies or tariffs, which have the effect of substantially
3 limiting United States agricultural exports to the
4 European Community;

5 (4) not limit the United States ability to exer-
6 cise its rights under the GATT to eliminate unfair
7 trade barriers in the future; and

8 (5) achieve a sound agreement governing sani-
9 tary and phytosanitary regulations.

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