



- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:30PM by Chairman Jason Zahn. The agenda for the meeting and minutes of the 2017 Cattle Industry Annual Convention in Nashville were approved without objection.
- II. COMMITTEE ACTIONS:
  - a. Consideration of Expiring Policy:

After conclusion of the speakers and presentations during the meeting, Chairman Zahn moved to consideration of expiring policy. The following expiring policies were acted on:

1. IT Directive 2012 – “WTO COOL Compliant Ruling”. There was no motion to renew the directive so it was allowed to sunset.
2. IT 1.13 – “Live Cattle Imports”. Missy Bonds from TSCRA moved to renew the policy as amended. There was a second. The committee renewed the policy by a unanimous voice vote. The amendments are reflected below in italics and strikethroughs.

IT 1.13

**Live Cattle Imports**

WHEREAS, the safety of the food supply for U.S. consumers is a top priority for the cattle industry, and

WHEREAS, keeping out foreign animal diseases that could seriously damage the cattle industry is of concern, and

WHEREAS, USDA has developed a list of science-based factors to be used to evaluate the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) risk from a region or country and to classify a region or country as a minimal BSE risk area,

*THEREFORE* BE IT RESOLVED, NCBA shall work to ensure USDA bases trade agreements with all beef trading partners on the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) standards to re-establish beef and beef by-product trade.

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCBA request USDA equalize its risk status with those set out by OIE based on sound scientific standards.~~

3. IT 1.16 – “U.S. Processed Beef for U.S. Troops Serving Overseas”. Missy Bonds from TSCRA moved to renew. There was a second. The committee renewed the policy by a unanimous voice vote.
4. IT 2.4 – “Trade and Retaliatory Measures.” Missy Bonds from TSCRA moved to renew the policy as amended. There was a second. The committee renewed the

policy by a unanimous voice vote. The amendments are reflected below in italics and strikethroughs.

IT 2.4

**Trade and Retaliatory Measures**

WHEREAS, the U.S. trade deficit continues to grow, and

~~WHEREAS, the United States is now a net beef importer both in terms of tonnage and dollar value, and~~

WHEREAS, other countries have closed their borders to U.S. beef products due to either unscientific food safety concerns or incorrect paperwork, and

WHEREAS, a single U.S. shipment bound for export that fails to meet agreed upon requirements should not be grounds for excluding U.S. beef and beef products,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, NCBA shall use all necessary means to lobby the U.S. Congress and Administration to pursue swift and appropriate trade retaliatory measures against countries that implement such trade practices.

5. IT 2.5 – “Support for Trade”. Missy Bonds from TSCRA moved to renew the policy as amended. There was a second. The committee renewed the policy by a unanimous voice vote. The amendments are reflected below in italics and strikethroughs.

IT 2.5

**Support for Trade**

~~WHEREAS, U.S. negotiators have proposed an aggressive World Trade Organization agenda for phasing out export subsidies and eliminating disparities in tariff levels and trade distorting domestic supports,~~

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, NCBA endorses the Administration’s efforts to obtain a commercially meaningful trade package that creates a level playing field for agriculture.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCBA ~~calls on Congress to renew~~ *supports* Trade Promotion Authority.

6. IT 2.8 – “International Beef Trade – Trans-Pacific Partnership”. Missy Bonds from TSCRA moved to renew the policy as amended. There was a second. The committee renewed the policy by a unanimous voice vote. The amendments are reflected below in italics and strikethroughs.

IT 2.8

**International Beef Trade - Trans-Pacific Partnership**

~~WHEREAS, the United States is actively engaged in establishing a Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) with the countries of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam, and~~

WHEREAS, TPP will be a multilateral trade agreement that will enhance trade and investment among the TPP partner countries, promote innovation, economic growth and development, and support the creation and retention of jobs, and

~~WHEREAS, the United States and other TPP countries have agreed to seek to finalize an agreement in the near future,~~

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, NCBA support the United States entering into a Trans-Pacific Partnership that removes tariff and non-tariff trade barriers to U.S. beef exports to participating countries,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCBA insist that all countries that participate in TPP abide by full World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCBA insist that the United States require all participating TPP countries to lift tariff and non-tariff trade barriers on U.S. beef once the TPP agreement is enacted,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCBA insist that the addition of any country (other than those previously listed) to the TPP be conditioned on that country agreeing to lift remaining restrictions on U.S. beef and abide by full OIE guidelines prior to joining TPP.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCBA encourages the Administration to restore the United States to the TPP, and if it is not the policy of the United States to participate in the TPP, then NCBA strongly encourages the Administration and Congress to prioritize the timely negotiation and implementation of bilateral free trade agreements with TPP countries.*

### III. New Business

No other business was brought before the committee.

### IV. Adjournment - The committee adjourned at 2:31PM