

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to establish a database of isotopic signatures for processing tomatoes, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. VALADAO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to establish a database of isotopic signatures for processing tomatoes, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rooting Out Mis-
5 labeled Agriculture Act” or the “ROMA Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is to—

1 (1) recognize the successful use of a public-pri-
2 vate partnership to develop and maintain an isotopic
3 signature for cotton and textile imports and to use
4 such signature to test imports for cotton grown and
5 processed using slave labor in China’s Xingjian prov-
6 ince in violation of Public Law 117–78 (commonly
7 known as the “Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention
8 Act”); and

9 (2) encourage a similar process for the creation
10 and testing of processing tomatoes that are sold as
11 paste or mixed into other products.

12 **SEC. 3. ISOTOPIC SIGNATURES FOR PROCESSING TOMA-**
13 **TOES.**

14 The National Agricultural Research, Extension, and
15 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by inserting after
16 section 1473H (7 U.S.C. 3319k) the following:

17 **“SEC. 1473I. ISOTOPIC SIGNATURES FOR PROCESSING TO-**
18 **MATOES.**

19 “(a) DATABASE.—

20 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting
21 through the Administrator of the Agricultural Re-
22 search Service, shall establish and maintain (directly
23 or by making a grant) a database of isotopic signa-
24 tures of processing tomatoes.

1 “(2) SCIENTIFIC SAMPLES.—The Secretary
2 shall collect and record (directly or by making a
3 grant) scientific samples, including domestic and for-
4 eign samples, as appropriate for maintaining the
5 Database.

6 “(3) ACCESS.—Upon the request of an indi-
7 vidual or entity (including a Federal agency, an in-
8 stitution of higher education, an agricultural re-
9 search station, or a private entity), the Secretary
10 shall provide to such individual or entity, in a timely
11 fashion, information contained in the Database.

12 “(b) RESEARCH OF TESTING METHODOLOGIES.—

13 “(1) CONDUCT OF RESEARCH.—For the pur-
14 pose of assisting the establishment and maintenance
15 of the Database, the Secretary shall conduct re-
16 search (directly or by making a grant) on the fur-
17 ther development of isotopic testing methods, includ-
18 ing methods that may increase accuracy or the
19 breadth of testable biological materials.

20 “(2) RETENTION OF RESEARCH DATA.—An en-
21 tity that is awarded a grant to conduct research
22 under paragraph (1) may retain a copy of any data
23 generated through such research.

24 “(c) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this section,
25 the Secretary shall coordinate with the Commissioner of

1 U.S. Customs and Border Protection on how to best sup-
2 port customs and import inspections of processing toma-
3 toes using the isotopic signatures in the Database.

4 “(d) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
5 of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit
6 to Congress a report that includes—

7 “(1) an analysis of the establishment and use
8 of the Database;

9 “(2) a description of the results of the research
10 conducted under subsection (b)(1); and

11 “(3) any recommendations for legislative or ad-
12 ministrative action.

13 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 “(1) DATABASE.—The term ‘Database’ means
15 the database established under subsection (a)(1).

16 “(2) ISOTOPIC SIGNATURE.—The term ‘isotopic
17 signature’ means a usable geographic fingerprint
18 created by examining a unique ratio of stable or ra-
19 dioactive isotopes as well as the specific ratio of ele-
20 ments like hydrogen, oxygen, carbon, and nitrogen
21 for a subject item, including through trace element
22 analysis, stable isotope ratio analysis, or any other
23 process capable of identifying the geographic place
24 of origin of the subject item.

1 “(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
2 the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of
3 the Agricultural Research Service.”.