

(b) Publication

The Secretary shall publish information reported under subsection (a) as the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate.

(Aug. 14, 1946, ch. 966, title II, § 233, as added Pub. L. 111-239, § 2(b)(1), Sept. 27, 2010, 124 Stat. 2501.)

NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING PROCESS

Pub. L. 111-239, § 2(b)(2)-(4), Sept. 27, 2010, 124 Stat. 2501, provided that:

“(2) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a negotiated rulemaking process pursuant to subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, to negotiate and develop a proposed rule to implement the amendment made by paragraph (1) [enacting this section].

“(3) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING COMMITTEE.—

“(A) REPRESENTATION.—Any negotiated rulemaking committee established by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to paragraph (2) shall include representatives from—

- “(i) organizations representing swine producers;
- “(ii) organizations representing packers of pork, processors of pork, retailers of pork, and buyers of wholesale pork;
- “(iii) the Department of Agriculture; and
- “(iv) among interested parties that participate in swine or pork production.

“(B) INAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—Any negotiated rulemaking committee established by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to paragraph (2) shall not be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

“(4) TIMING OF PROPOSED AND FINAL RULES.—In carrying out the negotiated rulemaking process under paragraph (2), the Secretary of Agriculture shall ensure that—

- “(A) any recommendation for a proposed rule or report is provided to the Secretary of Agriculture not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Sept. 27, 2010]; and
- “(B) a final rule is promulgated not later than one and a half years after the date of the enactment of this Act.”

PART D—LAMB REPORTING

§ 1635m. Mandatory reporting for lambs

(a) Establishment

The Secretary may establish a program of mandatory lamb price information reporting that will—

- (1) provide timely, accurate, and reliable market information;
- (2) facilitate more informed marketing decisions; and
- (3) promote competition in the lamb slaughtering industry.

(b) Notice and comment

If the Secretary establishes a mandatory price reporting program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for comment on proposed regulations to establish the program during the 30-day period beginning on the date of the publication of the proposed regulations.

(Aug. 14, 1946, ch. 966, title II, § 241, as added Pub. L. 106-78, title IX, § 911(2), Oct. 22, 1999, 113 Stat. 1200.)

LAMB REPORTING

Pub. L. 114-54, title I, § 103, Sept. 30, 2015, 129 Stat. 514, provided that: “Not later than 180 days after the date

of enactment of this Act [Sept. 30, 2015], the Secretary of Agriculture shall revise section 59.300 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, so that—

“(1) the definition of the term ‘importer’—

“(A) includes only those importers that imported an average of 1,000 metric tons of lamb meat products per year during the immediately preceding 4 calendar years; and

“(B) may include any person that does not meet the requirement referred to in subparagraph (A), if the Secretary determines that the person should be considered an importer based on their volume of lamb imports; and

“(2) the definition of the term ‘packer’—

“(A) applies to any entity with 50 percent or more ownership in a facility;

“(B) includes a federally inspected lamb processing plant which slaughtered or processed the equivalent of an average of 35,000 head of lambs per year during the immediately preceding 5 calendar years; and

“(C) may include any other lamb processing plant that does not meet the requirement referred to in subparagraph (B), if the Secretary determines that the processing plant should be considered a packer after considering the capacity of the processing plant.”

PART E—ADMINISTRATION

§ 1636. General provisions

(a) Confidentiality

The Secretary shall make available to the public information, statistics, and documents obtained from, or submitted by, packers, retail entities, and other persons under this subchapter in a manner that ensures that confidentiality is preserved regarding—

- (1) the identity of persons, including parties to a contract; and
- (2) proprietary business information.

(b) Disclosure by Federal Government employees

(1) In general

Subject to paragraph (2), no officer, employee, or agent of the United States shall, without the consent of the packer or other person concerned, divulge or make known in any manner, any facts or information regarding the business of the packer or other person that was acquired through reporting required under this subchapter.

(2) Exceptions

Information obtained by the Secretary under this subchapter may be disclosed—

- (A) to agents or employees of the Department of Agriculture in the course of their official duties under this subchapter;
- (B) as directed by the Secretary or the Attorney General, for enforcement purposes; or
- (C) by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(3) Disclosure under Freedom of Information Act

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no facts or information obtained under this subchapter shall be disclosed in accordance with section 552 of title 5.

(c) Reporting by packers

A packer shall report all information required under this subchapter on an individual lot basis.

(d) Regional reporting and aggregation

The Secretary shall make information obtained under this subchapter available to the public only in a manner that—