

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure that consumers can make informed decisions in choosing between meat products such as beef and imitation meat products, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mrs. FISCHER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure that consumers can make informed decisions in choosing between meat products such as beef and imitation meat products, 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 “Real Marketing Edible  
5       Artificials Truthfully Act of 2019” or the “Real MEAT  
6       Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. LABELING OF IMITATION MEAT PRODUCTS.**

2 The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act is amend-  
3 ed by inserting after section 403C of such Act (21 U.S.C.  
4 21 343–3) the following:

5 **“SEC. 403D. LABELING OF IMITATION MEAT PRODUCTS.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section  
7 101.3(e) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any  
8 successor regulations), without respect to the relative nu-  
9 tritional value of the food, any imitation meat food prod-  
10 uct, imitation beef, or imitation beef product shall be  
11 deemed to be misbranded unless its label bears, in type  
12 of uniform size and prominence, the word ‘imitation’ im-  
13 mediately before or after the name of the food and a state-  
14 ment that clearly indicates the product is not derived  
15 from, or does not contain, meat.

16 “(b) COORDINATION WITH SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.—

18 “(1) NOTIFICATION OF MISBRANDING.—If the  
19 Secretary determines that food is misbranded under  
20 subsection (a), the Secretary shall, within 60 days of  
21 such determination, transmit a notice of such deter-  
22 mination to the Secretary of Agriculture.

23 “(2) ENFORCEMENT FAILURE.—If the Sec-  
24 retary fails, within 30 days of transmitting a notice  
25 under paragraph (1), to initiate an enforcement ac-  
26 tion with respect to the food that is the subject of

1 such notice, the Secretary of Agriculture may treat  
2 each such determination of misbranding under sub-  
3 section (a) with respect to the food as a determina-  
4 tion of misbranding under section 1(n) of the Fed-  
5 eral Meat Inspection Act.

6 “(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section shall  
7 not be construed as limiting the authority of the Secretary  
8 of Agriculture to take enforcement or other action under  
9 the Federal Meat Inspection Act or other applicable law  
10 with respect to a food subject to subsection (a).

11 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section:

12 “(1) The term ‘beef’ or ‘beef product’ means  
13 any food containing edible meat tissue from domes-  
14 ticated *Bos indicus* or *Bos taurus* cattle.

15 “(2) The term ‘imitation beef’ means any food  
16 manufactured to appear as beef or any food that ap-  
17 proximates the aesthetic qualities (primarily texture,  
18 flavor, and appearance) or the chemical characteris-  
19 tics of specific types of beef but does not contain any  
20 meat, meat food product, or meat byproduct ingredi-  
21 ents.

22 “(3) The term ‘imitation beef product’ means  
23 any food manufactured to appear as a beef product  
24 or any food that approximates the aesthetic qualities  
25 (primarily texture, flavor, and appearance) or the

1 chemical characteristics of specific types of beef  
2 products but does not contain any meat, meat food  
3 product, or meat byproduct ingredients.

4 “(4) The term ‘imitation meat food product’  
5 means any food manufactured to appear as a meat  
6 food product or any food that approximates the aes-  
7 thetic qualities (primarily texture, flavor, and ap-  
8 pearance) or chemical characteristics of specific  
9 types of meat but does not contain any meat, meat  
10 food product, or meat byproduct ingredients.

11 “(5) The term ‘meat’ is within the meaning of  
12 the Federal Meat Inspection Act.

13 “(6) The term ‘meat byproduct’ is within the  
14 meaning of the Federal Meat Inspection Act.

15 “(7) The term ‘meat food product’ has the  
16 meaning given the term in section 1 of the Federal  
17 Meat Inspection Act.”.