R036-0708

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING CARBON MONOXIDE AS A MEAT PRESERVATIVE

WHEREAS: Color is an important tool for consumers to determine freshness of meat; and,

WHEREAS: Several supermarket chains, including Giant Food, Stop & Shop and Safeway have stopped selling carbon monoxide treated meats; and,

WHEREAS: The European Union has banned use of carbon monoxide treatments; and,

WHEREAS: Many companies still practice deceptive techniques such as packaging fresh meat around older meat; and,

WHEREAS: Meats are already extensively treated with preservatives and antimicrobial agents; and,

WHEREAS: Carbon monoxide gas treatments maintain a meat's bright red color even after the meat has spoiled; and,

WHEREAS: Consumers should have the right to fair and accurate information concerning a food product's freshness.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Maryland Student Legislature urges the United States Congress to draft and pass legislation controlling or eliminating carbon monoxide treatments for packaged meats.

MANDATES: President George W. Bush
Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi
House Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer
House Minority Leader John A. Boehner
Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid
Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
Energy and Commerce Committee Chair John D. Dingell

Sponsor:

Nick Vogtman
Speaker of the Assembly
Towson University