

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 3, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Jamieson Greer
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade
Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington DC, 20508

Dear Secretary Rollins and Ambassador Greer:

We write in strong opposition to the Trump administration's reported plans to increase beef imports from Argentina and undercut American ranchers.

Cattle ranching has been at the heart of rural New Mexico's economy and culture for centuries. Today, cattle and calves are one of the largest cash commodities for the state, which contributes \$1.7 billion to the New Mexico economy each year.¹ Ranching has never been easy but recent years have been especially difficult. From years of drought to soaring input costs, New Mexico's ranchers have barely turned a profit. Just as ranchers expected a good year, the Trump administration recklessly announced a plan to increase cheap imports of Argentinian beef by 300 percent.² This plan to flood the market with foreign beef will take money out of the pockets of New Mexico's ranchers with questionable benefits to consumers.

Selling out New Mexico's ranchers is not the way to bring down beef prices at the grocery store. While thousands of New Mexico ranchers work tirelessly just to stay afloat, corporate meatpackers get rich by driving up beef prices for shoppers. Just last month, two of the largest corporate meatpackers settled a beef price-fixing lawsuit for \$87.5 million.³ The Trump administration could instead take action against consolidation in the meatpacking industry to prevent further price gouging.

¹ "2024 New Mexico Agricultural Statistics." 2025.

https://www.nass.usda.gov/statistics/by_state/new_mexico/publications/annual_statistical_bulletin/2024/2024-NM-Ag-Statistics.Pdf. United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

² Mason, Jeff, Tom Polansek, and Leah Douglas. 2025. "Trump to quadruple Argentine beef imports while US ranchers fume." Reuters. October 24, 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/trump-quadrupling-argentina-beef-tariff-rate-quota-80000-metric-tons-2025-10-23/>.

³ Scarcella, Mike. 2025. "Tyson, Cargill to pay \$88 million to consumers in beef price-fixing lawsuit." Reuters. October 7, 2025. Accessed October 30, 2025. <https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/tyson-cargill-pay-88-million-consumers-beef-price-fixing-lawsuit-2025-10-07/>.

Ranching is not just a job, it's a way of life in our rural communities. New Mexico's ranchers deserve a federal government that looks out for them rather than one that gives a handout to foreign producers. As such, we demand that the Trump administration halt and reverse any plans to increase the importation of Argentinian beef.

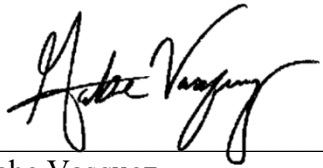
Sincerely,



Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



Gabe Vasquez
Member of Congress