

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 23, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

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

Dear President Trump and Secretary Rollins,

Following strong bipartisan pushback on last year's Argentina bailout, we are deeply concerned by your administration's new announcement to let more foreign beef into the United States. Your recent Executive Order would allow four times as much Argentinian beef to enter the U.S. this year. As members of the House Agriculture Committee representing states with significant cattle sectors, we write to urge you to reverse this decision and prioritize American ranchers and consumers.

Your prior policies, including the original bailout and now this expansion of Argentinian beef imports, continue to undermine domestic producers and fail to lower grocery costs for Americans. Only two percent of imported beef came from Argentina in 2024, and economists indicate higher imports are unlikely to reduce prices meaningfully, though they may boost margins for major food companies.¹

We understand that factors like the cattle cycle, drought, and other challenges affect beef prices. But instead of supporting American ranchers and helping lower grocery costs, your administration's policies have created more uncertainty and prioritized bailouts for Argentina and deals with your political allies. Last year, farm bankruptcies rose 46 percent compared with 2024, amid low commodity prices and high input costs, largely driven by your self-inflicted trade war.² Ranchers and other producers with diversified operations are one of the few positives in the farm economy.

This new Argentinian beef announcement threatens this by increasing market volatility at a time when American producers need support, not sabotage. Moreover, while your administration has expressed concern about consolidation in meatpacking, no concrete policies have been provided to protect American ranchers and consumers who are paying the price.

We urge you to reverse the Executive Order on Argentinian beef imports and instead invest in the domestic cattle industry, including smaller, family-owned operations that feed our country. We stand ready to work in a bipartisan way to enact policies that strengthen American ranchers and lower grocery prices. Thank you for your urgent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

¹ Tom Polansek, "Trump signs proclamation increasing Argentine beef imports," Reuters, February 6, 2026, <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/trump-signs-proclamation-increasing-certain-types-beef-imports-white-house-says-2026-02-06/>.

² Samantha Ayoub, "Farm Bankruptcies Continued to Climb in 2025," American Farm Bureau Federation, February 9, 2026, <https://www.fb.org/market-intel/farm-bankruptcies-continued-to-climb-in-2025>.



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