

Calendar No. 532

69TH CONGRESS }
1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 527 }

REGULATING THE SALE OF KOSHER MEAT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

APRIL 2, 1926.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. COPELAND, from the Committee on the District of Columbia,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7255]

The Committee on the District of Columbia, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7255) to regulate the sale of kosher meat in the District of Columbia, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

The object of the bill is to prevent misbranding of meat by providing penalties for the fraudulent use of the word "kosher," or the symbol signifying "clean" or "freshly killed." The word "kosher" is used to designate meat and meat products prepared in accordance with Hebrew customs and practice. To about 14,000 residents of the District of Columbia, who habitually purchase meat marked with the kosher symbol, it implies that such food is absolutely clean, free from blemish, and prepared in the manner prescribed by regulations of their religious belief. The price paid for such meat is usually considerably higher than that paid for meat prepared in the ordinary way, with the result that an incentive is offered for the practice of fraud by unscrupulous persons through the sale of nonkosher products as genuine kosher food.

The bill hereby reported, in substance, prohibits the sale in the District of Columbia as kosher of any meat which is not kosher, and provides for the proper labeling and designation of both kosher and nonkosher meat where both kinds are sold by the same dealer. Other jurisdictions have similar laws, the sole purpose and effect of which is to prevent fraud upon part of the public. The bill is in entire harmony with existing laws pertaining to the inspection of foodstuffs.