

S 1759

Agriculture Competition Enhancement Act of 2007

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Commerce

Introduced: Jul 10, 2007

Current Status: Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights. Hearin

Latest Action: Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights.

Hearings held. (May 7, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/1759>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]

Party: Republican • State: IA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kohl, Herb [D-WI]	D · WI		Jul 10, 2007
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Jul 10, 2007

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	May 7, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Commerce

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Agriculture Competition Enhancement Act of 2007 - Establishes in the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice a Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Agricultural Antitrust Matters who shall: (1) be responsible for oversight and coordination of agriculture-related antitrust and related matters; and (2) work in coordination with the Task Force and the Department of Agriculture on all agricultural competition matters.

Establishes under the authority of the Attorney General the Agriculture Competition Task Force to examine problems in agricultural competition.

Amends the Clayton Act to revise the defendant's burden of proof in agribusiness mergers in which the plaintiff is: (1) the federal or state government; or (2) any other plaintiff.

Directs the Justice Department and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to: (1) draft agriculture specific guidelines to use when reviewing agriculture mergers; and (2) conduct post merger reviews of certain agribusiness mergers five years after approval.

Establishes within the Department of Agriculture the Office of Competition and Fair Practices to be headed by a Special Counsel for Competition Matters who shall: (1) analyze mergers within the food and agricultural sectors; and (2) investigate and prosecute violations of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921.

Provides for agribusiness merger review and enforcement by the Department of Agriculture.

Authorizes appropriations for additional staff for the Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration to investigate the competitive implications of structural changes in the meat packing and poultry industries.

Actions Timeline

- **May 7, 2008:** Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights. Hearings held.
- **Jul 10, 2007:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 10, 2007:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.