



Chilean and American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia



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Director
Sheryl K. Rothberg

March 28, 2007

Ms. Sally White
Director, International Equivalence Staff
Office of International Affairs
300 12th Street, SW.
Room 102 Cotton Annex
Washington, DC 20250

**RE: Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), Docket No. FSIS-2006-0030,
Eligibility of Chile to Export Poultry and Poultry Products to the United
States, 72 Fed. Reg. 8293**

Dear Ms. White,

We are writing in full support of the FSIS proposed rule to add Chile to the list of countries eligible to export poultry and poultry products to the United States. Now that FSIS has completed reviews that show that Chile's slaughter inspection standards, procedures, laws and regulations are equivalent to the USDA's Poultry Products Inspection Act and its implementing regulations, it is imperative to finalize the rule as soon as possible.

The Port of Philadelphia is the largest port of entry for meat in North America and a primary handler of imports of Chilean agricultural products. More imports into the port create additional jobs in the areas of transportation, warehousing and distribution which in turn foster improvements in the economy of the state. The Port of Philadelphia is a major component of the economic infrastructure of the city of Philadelphia and the State of Pennsylvania.

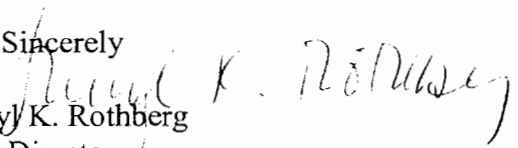
Moreover, the United States is Chile's largest trading partner in agricultural products. Allowing Chile to export poultry products to the U.S. would enhance the free flow of trade between both countries. Moreover, with access to foreign markets increasingly critical to American agriculture, it is more important than ever that countries base trade decisions on sound science. By moving to allow imports of Chilean poultry, FSIS is setting a strong example to be used in persuading other countries to remove their unnecessary trade restrictions.

An Affiliate of



We urge FSIS to act on the conclusions of the Docket No. FSIS 2006-0030 upon close of the April 27, 2007 comment period and publish a final rule as quickly as possible. To do so is good science policy, good trade policy, and good economic policy.

Sincerely


Sheryl K. Rothberg
Director