



U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON

Finance

SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY, OF IOWA - CHAIRMAN

<http://finance.senate.gov>

MEMORANDUM

To: Reporters and Editors
Re: Japan's planned inspection of U.S. beef processing plants
Da: Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Sen. Chuck Grassley, chairman of the Committee on Finance, with jurisdiction over international trade, today made the following comment on Japan's planned inspection of U.S. beef processing plants as a possible precursor to resumed imports of U.S. beef.

"It's important to remember that a commitment to conduct inspections doesn't mean resumed imports of U.S. beef. We've been through this drill before, and it's premature to jump for joy over this step. I'm glad Japan will begin inspections, but I'll continue to press the Japanese until they actually open their market based on science. Their resistance to U.S. beef is based on false premises. At this point, our trading partner needs to keep moving forward to make positive-sounding pledges a reality."