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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2307

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April 25, 2007

Ms. Sally White
Director, International Equivalence Staff
Office of International Affairs

**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,

I am writing to register my support for proposed FSIS rule to add Chile to the list of countries eligible to export poultry and poultry products to the United States.

The United States is Chile's largest trading partner in agricultural products. Listing Chile as a country eligible to export poultry to the United States would expand international markets and enhance the free flow of trade between both countries, consistent with the U.S.-Chile Free Trade Agreement. Eliminating the existing trade barrier for Chilean poultry will help provide American poultry producers with critical access to foreign markets. For example, in 2006, Chile initiated access for U.S. poultry with an initial tariff-quota of 8000 metric tons with tariff rate quota (TRQ) increases of 5 percent until 2013, at which time the tariff will be zero and the TRQ will vanish.

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.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for the proposed rule.

Sincerely,



Norm Coleman
United States Senate

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