**R-CALF USA Activities & Accomplishments**

**Updated November 20, 2017**

* Blocked multinational beef packers from controlling the live cattle supply chain through vertical integration as they’ve already done in the hog and poultry industries. It accomplished this on its own or with the help of others by:
	+ Passing COOL for beef in the 2002 Farm Bill.
	+ Stopping the merger between Brazilian-owned JBS and National Beef.
	+ Causing the USDA to write proposed rules to implement the Packers & Stockyards Act’s prohibitions against unfair buying practices.
	+ Stopping the mandatory animal identification system (NAIS).
	+ Defeating efforts in MO and OK to increase beef checkoff assessments to $2.
* Caused the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee to initiate an investigation into the 2015 cattle-price collapse, which worsened after Congress repealed mandatory COOL. The investigation is ongoing.
* Won a major beef checkoff lawsuit that ruled the USDA violated the Constitution by forcing producers to fund the private speech of a state checkoff council without first obtaining the producers’ consent.
* Called for the closure of the U.S. border to Brazilian beef following reports that Brazil was shipping tainted beef in the export market. Three months later, Secretary Perdue did close the border to raw Brazilian beef.
* Called for an investigation into the business practices of the world’s largest beef packer, JBS, after JBS admitted to engaging in criminal activity it Brazil.
* Filed a lawsuit with a state affiliate alleging the USDA is unlawfully allowing importers to remove COOL labels on imported beef before the beef reaches U.S. consumers.
* Continues fighting to reverse the current U.S. beef trade deficit by supporting the Trump Administration’s efforts to renegotiate free trade agreements.
* Continues fighting to change the Rules of Origin in U.S. trade agreements that allow packers to place a USA label on beef derived from imported cattle.
* Continues to educate cattle producers about the dangers of the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef, which is a redo of the national animal identification system that empowers multinational corporations to dictate the terms of production to U.S. cattle producers and then requires producers to use electronic identification devices and hire 3rd party auditors to certify compliance to corporate production standards.