



FEDERAL ACTIONS

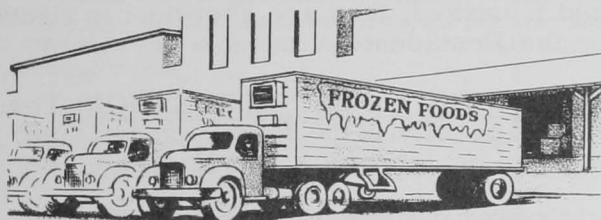


Federal Trade Commission

FROZEN FOOD INDUSTRY TRADE PRACTICE RULES:

Trade practice rules for the frozen food industry were issued January 13, 1956, by the Federal Trade Commission under the trade practice conference procedure. These rules become operative 30 days after date of issue.

The industry for which trade practice rules are hereby established is composed of persons, firms, corporations,



and organizations engaged in the production and/or marketing of vegetables, fruits, juices, fish and shellfish, baked goods, and other miscellaneous prepared foods, which are packed, marketed, and delivered to the ultimate consumer in a frozen state. Not included as products of the industry are meats and poultry, and frozen dairy products including ice cream and sherbets.

With respect to products of the industry as above defined, the rules for this industry supersede those promulgated for the Grocery Industry on March 18, 1952.

The rules are directed to the maintenance of free and fair competition in the industry and to the prevention and elimination of various practices deemed to be violative of laws administered by the Commission. They are to be applied to such end and to the exclusion of any acts or practices which suppress competition or otherwise restrain trade.

Proceedings under which the rules have been established were instituted upon application from members of the industry. A general trade practice conference was held in the offices of the Commission in Washington, D. C., at which proposals for rules were submitted for consideration of the Commission. Thereafter, proposed rules were published by the Commission and made available to all industry members and other interested or affected parties upon public notice whereby they were afforded opportunity to present their views, including such pertinent information, suggestions, or amendments as they desired to offer, and to be heard in the premises. Pursuant to such notice, a public hearing was held in Washington, D. C., on September 8, 1955, and all matters there presented, or otherwise received in the proceeding, were duly considered by the Commission.

Thereafter, and upon full consideration of the entire matter, final action was taken by the Commission whereby it approved and received respectively, the Group I and Group II rules. The Group II rules are not of the type presently the subject of a general study by the Commission.

The rules are divided into two groups. Group I rules embrace unfair methods of competition, unfair or deceptive acts or practices, or other illegal practices, prohibited under laws administered by the Federal Trade Commission; and appropriate proceedings in the public interest will be taken by the Commission to prevent the use, by any person, partnership, corporation, or other organization subject to its jurisdiction, of such unlawful practices in commerce. Specific rules include prohibited discrimination; exclusive deals; prohibited sales below cost; push money; fictitious prices;

false invoicing, billing, etc.; coercing the purchase of one product as a prerequisite to the purchase of other products; misrepresentation in general; defamations of competitors or false disparagement of their products; enticing away employees of competitors; substitution of products; inducing breach of contract; use of lottery schemes, etc.; prohibited forms of trade restraints (unlawful price fixing, etc.); use of the word "free"; misrepresenting products as conforming to standard; procurement of competitors' confidential information; and aiding or abetting use of unfair trade practices.

Group II rules include contractual obligations and proper refrigeration and although their violation does not per se constitute violation of law, correction proceedings in respect thereto may be instituted by the Commission.

Copies of Trade Practice Rules for the Frozen Food Industry are available upon request from the Federal Trade Commission, Washington 25, D. C.



Tariff Commission

INVESTIGATION OF INJURY TO DOMESTIC PRODUCERS BY GROUND FISH FILLET IMPORTS:

Upon application made January 12, 1956, by the Massachusetts Fisheries Association, Inc., and others, the United States Tariff Commission, on January 16, 1956, under the authority of section 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951, as amended, and section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930, instituted an investigation to determine whether the products described below are, as a result, in whole or in part, of the duty or other customs treatment reflecting concessions granted on such products under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, being imported into the United States in such increased quantities, either actual or relative, as to cause or threaten serious injury to the domestic industry producing like or directly-competitive products.

Tariff Act of 1930
Par. 717(b)

Description of Product

Cod, haddock, hake, pollock, cusk, and rosefish, fresh or frozen (whether or not packed in ice), all the foregoing, filleted, skinned, boned, sliced, or divided into portions.



Eighty-Fourth Congress (Second Session)

Listed below are public bills and resolutions that directly or indirectly affect the fisheries and allied industries. Public bills and resolutions are shown when introduced; from month to month the more pertinent reports, hearings, or chamber actions on the bills shown are published; and if passed, they are shown when signed by the President.



OPENING OF SECOND SESSION: The Second Session of the 84th Congress commenced on January 3, 1956.

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NATIONAL POLICY: H. R. 8001 (Wilson of California) introduced in House January 3. A bill to establish a national policy with respect to commercial fisheries; to establish the office of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Commercial Fisheries, and define his functions, powers, and responsibilities; to strengthen the commercial fisheries segment of the national economy; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

This bill provides for an additional Assistant Secretary of Commerce to exercise all functions with respect to commercial fisheries prescribed by this bill or transferred to him, under the general supervision and control of the Secretary of Commerce.

"... SEC. 3. (a) Those portions of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior having to do with biological, oceanographic, meteorological, technological, economic and other scientific investigations, conservation management, foreign activities, and economic activities, as all of these portions relate to the commercial fisheries, and their functions, are hereby transferred to the Assistant Secretary.

"(b) All records, property, personnel, commitments, and unexpended balances (available or to be made available) of appropriations, allocations, and other funds as the Director of the Bureau of the Budget shall determine to relate primarily to the functions transferred by subsection (a) shall be transferred to the Assistant Secretary.

"SEC. 4. With a view to keeping the commercial fisheries industry and the Government informed, the Assistant Secretary shall conduct continuing studies, and periodically report on, the following:

"(1) Production and flow to market of domestically produced fishery commodities;

"(2) Production and flow to market of foreign produced fishery commodities, as they affect the domestic commercial fisheries;

"(3) Trends in production of fishery commodities;

"(4) Measures appropriate to maximize the sustainable production of fishery commodities and minimize wide fluctuations therein; and

"(5) The competitive economic position of the several fishery commodities with respect to each other, to competitive foreign-produced fishery commodities, and to other competitive commodities.

"SEC. 5. (a) The Secretary shall establish, operate, and maintain a program of loans for construction or reconstruction of fishing vessels, and for operating capital and facilities loans needed by fishermen's associations or cooperatives. He shall also establish, operate, and maintain a program of commodity loans to fishermen's associations or cooperatives, and emergency loans, purchases, and payments with a view to securing to domestic fisheries a fair share of the national income. . . .

"SEC. 6. The Assistant Secretary shall conduct continuing studies, and periodically report, with respect to the following matters:

"(1) Through biological, oceanographic, meteorological, and other scientific research, he shall study and predict the availability of the living resources which support the domestic fishery industry;

"(2) Through market research, he shall study, predict, and report on marketing conditions insofar as they affect the domestic fishery industry; and

"(3) Through such means as he determines to be feasible he shall study, and report on the prospective availability to the market of products produced by the domestic fishery industry.

"Whenever the Assistant Secretary determines that there is a prospective or actual oversupply of any product or products produced by the domestic fishery industry, he shall engage in promotional and informational activities with a view to stimulating the consumption of such products.

"SEC. 7. (a) Whenever the Assistant Secretary has reason to believe that any product or products are being or are practically certain to be imported into the United States under such conditions and in such quantities as to render or tend to render ineffective, or materially interfere with, his operations under section 5, or to reduce substantially the amount of any product processed in the United States from any product produced by domestic commercial fisheries, he shall so advise the President. If the President agrees that there is reason for such belief, he shall cause an immediate investigation to be made by the United States Tariff Commission which shall give precedence to investigations to determine such facts. Such investigations shall be made after

due notice and opportunity for hearing to interested parties, and shall be subject to such regulations as the President shall specify.

"(b) If, on the basis of such investigation and report to him findings and recommendations made in connection therewith, the President finds the existence of such facts, he shall by proclamation impose such fees not in excess of 50 per centum ad valorem or such quantitative limitations on any article or articles which may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption as he finds and declares shown by such investigation to be necessary in order that the entry of such article or articles will not render or tend to render ineffective, or materially interfere with, any program or operation referred to in section 5, or reduce substantially the amount of any product processed in the United States from any product produced by domestic commercial fisheries. In designating any article or articles, the President may describe them by physical qualities, value, use, or upon such other bases as he shall determine.

"(c) After investigation, report, finding, and declaration in the manner provided in the case of a proclamation issued pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, any proclamation or provision of such proclamation may be suspended or terminated by the President whenever he finds and proclaims that the circumstances requiring the proclamation or provision thereof no longer exist or may be modified by the President whenever he finds and proclaims that changed circumstances require such modification to carry out the purposes of this section.

"(d) Any decision of the President as to facts under this section shall be final.

"(e) No trade agreement or other international agreement heretofore or hereafter entered into by the United States shall be applied in a manner inconsistent with the requirements of this section.

"SEC. 8. (a) The Assistant Secretary shall periodically prepare and disseminate to the public information relating to market conditions, production, and economics of fisheries in the principal fishing countries.

"(b) The Assistant Secretary shall cooperate with the Secretary of State in providing representation of the United States on International Fisheries Commissions and at International Fisheries Conferences.

"(c) The Assistant Secretary shall advise and consult with the Secretary of State and with other officers of the United States having responsibilities in the fields of providing economic and technical aid to foreign nations, with a view to providing coordination in programs of such aid insofar as such programs affect the interests of domestic commercial fisheries. The Assistant Secretary shall be represented in all international negotiations conducted by the United States pursuant to section 350 of the Tariff Act of 1930, insofar as such negotiations directly affect domestic commercial fisheries."

Also: introduced January 9: H. R. 8249 (Curtis of Mass.), H. R. 8285 (Teague of Calif.), and H. R. 8288 (Utt); January 12: H. R. 8360 (Hosmer), H. R. 8363 (Johnson of Calif.), H. R. 8368 (Kilgore), H. R. 8375 (Lipscomb), H. R. 8378 (McDonough), and H. R. 8386 (Phillips). January 16: H. R. 8455 (Bell), H. R. 8466 (Hale), H. R. 8478 (Lane), H. R. 8498 (Thompson of Texas), H. R. 8503 (Younger); January 17: H. R. 8536 (Farrington); introduced January 18: H. R. 8589

(Doyle) and H. R. 8590 (Fogarty); January 19: H. R. 8624 (Dorn); January 23: H. R. 8706 (Roosevelt)--all introduced in the House on the dates indicated, all similar to H. R. 8001 (Wilson of Calif.), and all referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT AMENDMENT: H. R. 8553 (Roosevelt) introduced in House January 17. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, to provide greater coverage for employees of food industries whose activities affect interstate commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

FOOD ADDITIVES: H. R. 8271 (O'Hara of Minn.) introduced in the House January 9. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for the protection of the public health, by prohibiting new food additives which have not been adequately pretested to establish their safe use under the conditions of their intended use; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Also: H. R. 8275 (Priest) introduced in the House on the same date and similar to H. R. 8271.

IMPORT QUOTAS: H. R. 7929 (Lanham of Georgia) introduced in House January 3. A bill to regulate the foreign commerce of the United States by establishing import quotas under specified conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Also: introduced January 5: H. R. 8099 (Bailey) and H. R. 8131 (Hays); January 12: H. R. 8326 (Byrd) and H. R. 8383 (Nelson)--all introduced in the House on the dates indicated and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and all similar to H. R. 7929 (Lanham of Georgia).

TARIFF COMMISSION INVESTIGATION OF FROZEN ALBACORE TUNA IMPORTS: S. Res. 186 (Kuchel and Magnuson) introduced in the Senate January 17. Resolved, that the United States Tariff Commission make an investigation, as provided for in section 7 (b) of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951, to determine whether, as a result of the concession made to Japan, in a trade agreement entered into on June 7, 1955, binding the duty-free treatment of fresh and frozen albacore tuna, this product is being imported in the United States in such increased quantities, either actual or relative, as to cause or threaten serious injury to the domestic industry producing like or directly competitive products; to the Committee on Finance.

Also: introduced in the House January 18: H. Res. 377 (King of Calif.) and H. Res. 378 (Farrington); referred to the Committee on Ways and Means--all similar to S. Res. 186 (Kuchel and Magnuson).

WATER POLLUTION: H. R. 8108 (Broyhill) introduced in the House January 5. A bill to provide for the development of a comprehensive master plan to abate and prevent water pollution in the District of Columbia and areas immediately adjacent thereto, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Public Works.



CANNED FISH FOR LENT

There will be plenty of canned fish and shellfish during Lent, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service assured housewives on February 1.

Supplies of canned fish and shellfish are well distributed throughout the country and include tuna, salmon, sardines, shrimp, crab, and oysters.

Canned tuna is on the United States Department of Agriculture Plentiful Foods List for February and March. It is relatively low in cost, and is available in a wide variety of styles of pack.

For a cold-weather casserole that the whole family will love, the home economists of the Fish and Wildlife Service suggest this recipe.

TUNA CASSEROLE WITH TOASTED ALMOND SAUCE

2 cans (6 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 7 ounces each) tuna	Dash pepper
2 packages (10 ounces each) frozen asparagus	Dash nutmeg
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped blanched almonds	2 cups milk
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter or other fat, melted	1 tablespoon sherry
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup flour	(optional)
$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt	Paprika

Drain and flake tuna. Cook asparagus as directed on package. Arrange in the bottom of a well-greased baking pan, 11 x 7 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Place tuna in a layer over asparagus. Fry almonds in butter until lightly brown. Blend in flour and seasonings. Add milk gradually and cook until thick, stirring constantly. Add sherry. Pour over tuna and asparagus. Sprinkle with paprika. Bake in a moderate oven, 350° F., for 25 to 30 minutes. Serves 6.