



NATIONAL MEAT ASSOCIATION

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STATEMENT ON SUPREME COURT RULING

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There have been claims recently about 'downer' cattle getting into the food supply due to the recent decision by the Supreme Court to overturn a California law. These claims are false.

Non-ambulatory cattle are banned by Federal law from food production, and the Supreme Court's decision supported that Federal law over California's.

NMA v. Harris was never about 'downer' cattle. This was a case regarding the application of the clear preemption provisions of the Federal Meat Inspection Act.

The California law would have eliminated the ability of Federal inspectors to conduct ante-mortem inspections of non-ambulatory swine.

NMA went to court to protect the important work that USDA does in overseeing meat inspection in the United States. Federal preemption ensures a clear and uniform standard nationwide.

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