

Courtesy translation

Please find attached the Opinion of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Senate of the Republic of Poland on:

- the proposal for a Council Regulation concerning the use of lactic acid to reduce microbiological surface contamination on bovine carcasses COM(2012)578.

/-/ Bogdan Borusewicz

Encl.

OPINION

**of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Senate of the Republic of Poland
concerning the Proposal for a Council Regulation concerning the use of lactic acid to
reduce microbiological surface contamination on bovine carcasses
COM(2012)578**

adopted at the sitting on 21 November 2012

The European Union Affairs Committee (EUAC) does not support the proposal for a Council Regulation concerning the use of lactic acid to reduce microbiological surface contamination on bovine carcasses COM(2012)578.

In the opinion of the EUAC there are concerns about the compatibility of meat disinfected with lactic acid with the definition of fresh meat laid down in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.

EUAC believes that the adoption of the proposed regulation would be a step backward in the observance of standards of food hygiene and good hygiene practices.

According to the EUAC additional concerns are related to the consumers' reaction to the introduction to the market of meat decontaminated with lactic acid. Such meat may be considered not fresh by potential consumers and may discourage them from buying any meat produced in the EU.