



WORKING TO OPEN NEW MARKETS TO SOUTH DAKOTA PRODUCTS

Over 900 South Dakota companies export to foreign markets, 75 percent of which are small- and medium-sized

As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over trade policy, Sen. Thune is working to open new markets to South Dakota products and level the playing field for America's farmers, ranchers, and manufacturers.

Highlights of Sen. Thune's commitment to South Dakota exports

Eliminating Barriers to South Dakota's Agricultural Exports:

Sen. Thune has [worked](#) to ensure that foreign nations cannot unfairly block South Dakota products by including rules in the Trade Promotion Authority law that limit the ability of trade agreement partners to impose unscientific restrictions on American agricultural exports.

Sen. Thune has also worked to reduce barriers facing South Dakota dairy products by pushing for common food name protections as part of core U.S. trade policy objectives.

Sponsored the American Beef Labeling Act:

Sen. Thune [introduced](#) bipartisan legislation to reinstate mandatory country of origin labeling (MCOOL) for beef with an emphasis on compliance with international trade rules. The legislation would provide greater transparency in labeling for beef that benefits South Dakota producers and consumers alike.

Promoting Agricultural Trade and Opening New Markets

Sen. Thune [led](#) efforts to expand existing markets, such as the passage of the United States-Canada-Mexico Agreement, and continues to [champion](#) opening new markets for South Dakota products and services.

Protecting Americans from Unfair Trade Practices

Sen. Thune [helped](#) protect South Dakota's honey producers from unfairly subsidized imports of Chinese honey.

Thune [introduced](#) bipartisan legislation to confront China's designation status as a developing country at the World Trade Organization, and legislation to [protect](#) U.S. communications networks from state-controlled communications equipment suppliers.

