

# BFO STATEMENT

## Bill C-202



### **Statement on the Passing of Bill C-202: An Act to amend the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Act**

**June 18, 2025 (Guelph, Ont.)** – The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) is disappointed to learn of the passing of Bill C-202, an Act to amend the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Act.

This legislation poses risks to Ontario's economic prosperity and to Canada's reputation as a reliable and ambitious trading partner. Ontario's economy is driven by international trade, which supports one in six jobs and accounts for two-thirds of provincial economic activity. By restricting Canada's ability to fully engage with trading partners, Bill C-202 threatens to undermine our trade relationships.

The bill sets a dangerous precedent that could embolden protectionist pressures from other sectors, weaken the ambition of future trade deals, and jeopardize export-dependent industries like the beef and cattle sectors.

Beef farmers derive a significant portion of the value of their animals from access to international markets. As one of the most sustainable beef-producing nations in the world, Canada has a unique opportunity to help meet the growing global demand for high-quality protein. Bill C-202 puts this opportunity—and our relationships with key trading partners—at risk.

While BFO respects and supports the supply management system, we firmly believe its protection should not come at the cost of other vital export-driven sectors.

Ultimately, this legislation offers no tangible benefits to the broader Canadian economy and represents a step backward in Canada's trade policy. We continue to call for a balanced approach that protects all sectors and ensures Canada remains a strong and credible partner in global trade.

*The Beef Farmers of Ontario represents 19,000 beef farmers in Ontario by advocating in the areas of sustainability, animal health and care, environment, food safety, and domestic and export market development. BFO's vision is help foster a sustainable and profitable beef industry, and have Ontario beef recognized as an outstanding product by our consumers.*

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#### **For More Information:**

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