86R8051 LED-D

By:  Murr H.B. No. 2761

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the labeling of beef and pork products; providing a civil penalty.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter D, Chapter 431, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 431.085 to read as follows:

Sec. 431.085.  LABELING OF BEEF AND PORK PRODUCTS REQUIRED; CIVIL PENALTY. (a) A retailer of beef, pork, or a beef or pork product shall affix a label to the container of the product designating the country of origin of the beef or pork used to make the product. If unwrapped or unpackaged beef, pork, or a beef or pork product is displayed for sale, the display case or container in which the meat is displayed must be clearly labeled with the country of origin.

(b)  A retailer who violates Subsection (a) is liable to the state for a civil penalty of $1,000 for each day the violation continues.

(c)  The attorney general may sue to collect the penalty and may recover reasonable expenses incurred in obtaining the penalty, including investigative costs, court costs, reasonable attorney's fees, witness fees, and deposition expenses.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.