Reindeer Meat Inspection Might Become Possible

Congressman Howard W. Pollock has introduced a bill in the United States House of Representatives to provide for the inspection of reindeer meat.

Under present law, the Department of Agriculture can inspect the meat only if reimbursed for its expenses.

Without inspection, the meat cannot be sold for consumption by the public.

"There is great potential for a reindeer industry in Northwest Alaska," Pollock said. "The development of this industry would create much needed jobs for our Native citizens in the areas where they are most needed—the villages."

"The Natives have no means to pay for the inspection of reindeer meat," Pollock added. "My bill will allow the Department of Agriculture to conduct inspection at government expense. I hope that the Congress will pass this bill to promote the reindeer industry and thus alleviate some of the worst poverty to be found anywhere in the United States," Congressman Pollock concluded.