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Poland Poised to Postpone GE Feed Ban for More Two Years

Report Categories:

Biotechnology - GE Plants and Animals Grain and Feed Oilseeds and Products Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

Poland's lower Chamber of Parliament (*Sejm*) approved a draft amendment to the 2006 Feed Act to postpone the Act's ban on genetically engineered (GE) feeds and GE-derived ingredients for another two years. An earlier exemption of the GE feed ban was scheduled to expire on December 31, 2018. The draft amendment continues move through the Parliament and will proceed to the upper Chamber of Parliament (*Senat*). Once the draft amendment is ratified by the *Senat*, it will require final approval from the President of Poland.

General Information:

The Government of Poland is poised to postpone the impending ban on GE livestock feed and GEderived feed ingredients through December 31, 2020. A draft amendment to the 2006 Feed Act, (Dz. U. 2006 No.144, Item 1045) to defer the Act's ban on GE feed and GE-derived ingredients was approved by the Council of Ministers and the *Sejm*. On November 22, 2018, the *Sejm* approved the amendment with 383 Members voting in favor, two against, and 24 abstaining. The draft amendment continues to move through Parliamentary procedures and will proceed to the *Senat* for ratification. According to unofficial sources, the *Senat* may vote on the amendment during the *Senat's* December 12-14, 2018 session.

The 2006 Feed Act, Dz. U. 2006 No.144, Item 1045, bans GE feed and derived ingredients. Its full enforcement would effectively stop most Polish soybean meal imports from South America and the United States. Since 2006, this provision has been repeatedly postponed, as Poland's thriving poultry, pork, and feed industries continue to require soy protein to remain globally competitive. If approved by *Senat* and signed by the President, the draft amendment will enter into force as of January 01, 2019. For more information please see <u>GAIN Report</u>