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UNITED STATES MARKING LAW FOR IRON OR STEEL PIPES

The Minister for International Trade, The Honourable James Kelleher, said that he welcomed the introduction in the U.S. Congress yesterday of an amendment to the U.S. law requiring that all imported iron or steel pipes and fittings be marked with their country of origin by permanent means such as die-stamping.

Minister Kelleher said: «I am pleased that President Reagan's Administration has initiated action on the undertaking made to the Prime Minister at the Quebec City Summit. We have maintained that an amendment to the marking law passed last fall represents the only permanent resolution of this issue and the introduction in the Congress today of this amendment is a welcome development. The amendment must, of course, undergo the normal legislative process and we will be watching its progress closely. At this time we cannot predict the eventual outcome in the Congress but I am optimistic. The Government will continue its efforts, in close co-operation with our industry, to ensure that our access to the U.S. market is not impaired».