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Act No. 30 (H.497). Agriculture; animal health; animal transport

An act relating to health requirements for animals used in agriculture

This act amends statutes relating to livestock-related businesses, the Livestock Care Standards Advisory Council, and health-related and other requirements for animals. The act amends multiple statutes relating to livestock-related businesses, including licensing and bonding provisions and duties of livestock dealers, packers, and transporters. Additionally, the act amends statutes relating to the terms of membership of the Livestock Care Standards Advisory Council.

The act amends statutes relating to animal health requirements, including control of contagious livestock diseases. The act defines “reportable disease” as diseases listed on the National List of Reportable Animal Diseases and diseases specified by the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets. The act simplifies the compensation scheme for condemned animals and the calculation of fees for disease testing. The act requires veterinarians to report sudden unexplained deaths or morbidity in herds or flocks. The act also requires operators of diagnostic laboratories to report immediately diagnoses of reportable diseases.

The act amends statutes relating to the interstate and intrastate movement of livestock and poultry. Importers of livestock and poultry are required to comply with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal Disease Traceability rule. The Secretary may adopt stricter movement requirements than the federal rule. The act also amends the statutes relating to: documentation for movement of domestic animals other than dogs and cats, intrastate movement of livestock and poultry, exceptions to transportation requirements, and movement of certain animals near the State border.

The act amends the statutes relating to feeding prohibited food waste to swine. The act also updates requirements relating to veterinary medicines and strikes provisions relating to tuberculin. The act amends statutes relating to penalties, and tuberculosis and brucellosis. Throughout the act, tuberculosis- and brucellosis-related provisions are struck, and statutes containing criminal penalties are amended to instead provide for the assessment of administrative penalties for violations of relevant provisions.

Effective Date: July 1, 2017