WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §19-1C-4

§19-1C-4. Powers and duties of the board.

- (a) The board has the following powers and duties to:
- (1) Establish standards governing the care and well-being of livestock;
- (2) Maintain food safety;
- (3) Encourage locally grown and raised food; and
- (4) Protect West Virginia farms and families.
- (b) The commissioner, in consultation with the board, is authorized to establish standards by legislative rule, pursuant to the provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq*. of this code, governing the care and well-being of livestock in this state, including:
- (1) The agricultural best management practices for the care and well-being of livestock and poultry in this state;
- (2) Procedures for addressing complaints regarding the inhumane treatment of livestock and coordinating efforts with county humane officers: *Provided*, That documents and communication regarding any investigation thereof, are considered confidential and are exempt from disclosure pursuant to §29B-1-1 *et seq*. of this code;
- (3) Biosecurity, disease prevention, animal morbidity, and mortality data;
- (4) Food safety practices; and
- (5) The protection of local, affordable food supplies for consumers.
- (c) The board shall review any rule proposed by the commissioner for legislative approval pursuant to this section. After reviewing the proposed legislative rule, the board may provide a recommendation to the Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee that the Legislature:
- (1) Authorize the promulgation of the legislative rule;
- (2) Authorize the promulgation of part of the legislative rule;
- (3) Authorize the promulgation of the legislative rule with certain amendments;
- (4) Recommend that the proposed rule be withdrawn; or
- (5) Reject the proposed rule.