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# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2010** 

# ENROLLED

# FOR House Bill No. 4201

(By Delegates Eldridge, Butcher, Stowers, Louisos, Border, Lawrence, Williams, Varner, Evans and Kominar)

Passed March 13, 2010

In Effect Ninety Days From Passage

# ENROLLED

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COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

OFFICE MARY OF STATE

## H. B. 4201

(By Delegates Eldridge, Butcher, Stowers, Louisos, Border, Lawrence, Williams, Varner, Evans and Kominar)

[Passed March 13, 2010; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §19-1C-1, §19-1C-2, §19-1C-3, §19-1C-4, §19-1C-5 and §19-1C-6, all relating to establishing the Livestock Care Standards Board; defining terms; specifying conditions of membership and the qualifications, terms and compensation of members; authoring legislative rulemaking; and providing for meetings of the board.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated §19-1C-1, §19-1C-2, §19-1C-3, §19-1C-4, §19-1C-5 and §19-1C-6, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1C. CARE OF LIVESTOCK.

#### §19-1C-1. Legislative findings.

- 1 (a) The Legislature finds that the following are important
- 2 to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of West
- 3 Virginia:
- 4 (1) Establishing standards governing the care and well-
- 5 being of livestock in this state;
- 6 (2) Maintaining food safety;
- 7 (3) Encouraging locally grown and raised food; and
- 8 (4) Protecting West Virginia farms and families.
- 9 (b) Therefore, to protect the public interest, the
- 10 Legislature finds that it is necessary to create a Livestock
- 11 Care Standards Board.

#### §19-1C-2. Definitions.

- 1 For the purposes of this article:
- 2 (1) "Board" means the Livestock Care Standards Board.
- 3 (2) "Livestock" has the same definition as set out in
- 4 subsection (d), section two, article ten-b of this chapter.

#### §19-1C-3. Livestock Care Standards Board.

- 1 (a) On July 1, 2010, there is hereby created the Livestock
- 2 Care Standards Board.
  - (b) Prior to July 1, 2010, the Governor shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, the following eleven members:

- 6 (1) One member who is a veterinarian licensed in this 7 state engaging in large animal practice, for a term of two 8 years;
- 9 (2) The dean of the agriculture department of a college or 10 university located in this state, for a term of three years;
- 11 (3) One member representing a county humane society 12 that is organized under state law, for a term of four years;
- (4) One member who is knowledgeable about food safety
  in this state, for a term of five years;
- 15 (5) Two members of the public representing West 16 Virginia consumers, one for a term of two years and one for 17 a term of four years;
- 18 (6) Two members representing state agricultural 19 organizations that represent farmers, one of whom must be a 20 member of the largest organization in the state representing 21 farmers for a term of three years, and the other must be a 22 member of a statewide livestock organization, for a term of 23 five years; and
- (7) Three members representing family farms engaged in
   animal production, at least two of whom are family farmers,
   for the following terms: one for three years, one for four
   years and one for five years.
- 28 (c) After the initial appointment terms, the appointment 29 term is five years. Appointed members may be reappointed 30 for additional terms.
- 31 (d) Commencing July 1, 2010, the board consists of the 32 following thirteen members:

- 33 (1) The Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture
- 34 or his or her designee, ex officio non-voting, who is the
- 35 chairperson of the board;
- 36 (2) The Director of the Animal Health Division, ex
- 37 officio non-voting;
- 38 (3) One member who is a veterinarian licensed in this
- 39 state engaging in large animal practice;
- 40 (4) The dean of the agriculture department of a college or
- 41 university located in this state;
- 42 (5) One member representing a county humane society
- 43 that is organized under state law;
- (6) One member who is knowledgeable about food safety
- 45 in this state:
- 46 (7) Two members of the public representing West
- 47 Virginia consumers;
- 48 (8) Two members representing state agricultural
- 49 organizations that represent farmers, one of whom must be a
- 50 member of the largest organization in the state representing
- 51 farmers, and the other must be a member of a statewide
- 52 livestock organization; and
- 53 (9) Three members representing family farms engaged in
- animal production, at least two of whom are family farmers.
- (e) All members must be residents of this state during
- 56 their terms No more than seven members of the board may
  - be of the solitical party and no more than five may be
  - from the ongressional district at any given time.

- 59 (f) All appointed members serve until their successor has
- been appointed and qualified. Vacancies shall be filled in the
- 61 same manner as the original appointment for the remainder
- 62 of the unexpired term.

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

- 1 (a) The board has the following powers and duties to:
- 2 (1) Establish standards governing the care and well-being
- 3 of livestock in this state;
- 4 (2) Maintain food safety;
- 5 (3) Encourage locally grown and raised food; and
- 6 (4) Protect West Virginia farms and families.
- 7 (b) The board is also authorized to establish standards by
- 8 legislative rule, pursuant to the provisions of article three,
- 9 chapter twenty-nine-a of this code, governing the care and
- well-being of livestock in this state, including:
- 11 (1) The agricultural best management practices for the
- care and well-being of livestock and poultry in this state;
- 13 (2) Biosecurity, disease prevention, animal morbidity and
- 14 mortality data;
- 15 (3) Food safety practices; and
- 16 (4) The protection of local, affordable food supplies for
- 17 consumers.
- (c) The Department of Agriculture shall administer and
- 19 enforce the standards established by the board that are
- approved by the Legislature.

#### §19-1C-5. Compensation of board members.

- 1 (a) The ex officio members of the board may not receive 2 compensation for serving on the board.
- 3 (b) The appointed members of the board shall receive
- 4 compensation for each day or portion of a day engaged in the
- 5 discharge of official duties, which compensation may not
- 6 exceed the amount paid to members of the Legislature for
- 7 their interim duties as recommended by the Citizens
- 8 Legislative Compensation Commission and authorized by
- 9 law.
- 10 (c) Each member of the board shall be reimbursed actual
- and necessary expenses incurred for each day or portion of a
- day engaged in the discharge of official duties in a manner
- 13 consistent with the guidelines of the Travel Management
- 14 Office of the Department of Administration.

#### §19-1C-6. Meetings of the board.

- 1 The board shall meet at least annually, and the
- 2 chairperson may call additional meetings of the board upon
- 3 the written request of three members.

### 7 [Enr. Com. Sub. for H. B. 4201

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