

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB927

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 14, 2012
Committee On: Agriculture
Introducer: Louden
One Liner: Authorize cattle brands as official identification as prescribed

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Bloomfield, Brasch, Carlson, Harr, Karpisek, Larson, Lathrop, Wallman

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator LeRoy Lounden
David Wright
Michael George
Chris Abbott
Albert Davis
Richard Schrunk
Dennis Derner
John Hansen

Representing:

Introducer
Independent Cattlemen of Nebraska
Self
Independent Cattlemen of Nebraska
Independent Cattlemen of Nebraska
Shamrock Livestock Market Producers of Holt County
Derner Angus Inc.
Nebraska Farmers Union

Opponents:

Greg Ibach

Representing:

Nebraska Department of Agriculture

Neutral:

Michael Kelsey
Craig Head

Representing:

Nebraska Cattlemen
Nebraska Farm Bureau

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 927 would insert a new section into the Nebraska Animal Import Act (sections 54-784.01 to 54-796) that would require the export or import of cattle to or from a state having a registered brand system and mandatory brand inspection to be officially identified and accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection. The bill would further declare that a brand is accepted as official identification for purposes of this section but authorizes use of other identification methods approved by the Department

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment strikes original section 2 and inserts a new section 2. Subsection (1) of the new section provides that individual identification is not required for cattle identified by registered brand, accompanied by state brand inspection certificate and imported directly from a mandatory brand inspection area of a state or portion of a state.

Subsection (2) enumerates three exceptions to the general exemption from individual ID of cattle described in subsection (1). The Department would have authority to require individual ID for entry into the state if the Director determines:

- (1) The brand inspection system of the sending state is insufficient to enable tracing animals to a herd of origin;
- (2) Identification by brands only conflicts with an applicable federal animal ID regulation governing the interstate movements of cattle; or
- (3) The cattle originate from a state or zone that is not designated tuberculosis accredited free or brucellosis Class Free or Class A by referenced federal code citations.

Subsection (3) expressly declares that this section does not impair the authority of the State Veterinarian to issue import orders imposing additional requirements for entry, including ID provisions.

Tom Carlson, Chairperson