

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0229

Livestock identification choice act.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Neiman, Andrew, Barlow, Bear, Clausen, Eklund, Hunt, Laursen, Sommers, Styvar and Winter and Senator(s) Cooper, Driskill, French, Hicks and Steinmetz

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to agriculture, livestock and other  
2 animals; codifying federal animal identification methods  
3 for Wyoming livestock as specified; providing exclusion;  
4 providing rulemaking authority; and providing for effective  
5 dates.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9       **Section 1.** W.S. 11-18-117(a), (b), by creating new  
10 subsections (c) and (d) and by amending and renumbering (c)  
11 and (d) as (e) and (f) is amended to read:

12

13       **11-18-117. Confidentiality of livestock premises and**  
14 **identification records; penalties.**

1

2 (a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this  
3 section, all records, data and information collected by the  
4 state, recorded or otherwise, for the purposes of a  
5 ~~national~~—livestock identification program shall be  
6 confidential and are not public records for purposes of  
7 W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205. The records, data and  
8 information shall be released only upon order of the  
9 Wyoming livestock board to appropriate governmental  
10 agencies for the purposes of a ~~national~~—livestock  
11 identification program, disease outbreak or law enforcement  
12 investigation. The board shall not release any records,  
13 data or information to a federal agency until the agency  
14 confirms in writing that it will maintain the records, data  
15 and information as confidential and that they are not  
16 subject to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C.  
17 § 552, as amended. Upon release by the board of any  
18 information to any other governmental entity, the board  
19 shall notify the person to whom the information refers or  
20 pertains that the release has been made, the name of the  
21 entity to whom the information was released and shall  
22 provide a copy or summary of the information contained in  
23 the release. The records, data and information shall not

1 be subject to discovery or introduction into evidence in  
2 any civil action.

3

4 (b) The Wyoming livestock board may release  
5 information collected for the purposes of a national  
6 livestock identification program related to the ownership  
7 and location of individual animals to the extent the  
8 information is useful in controlling or preventing a  
9 disease outbreak or to show particular animals or herds are  
10 not involved in a disease outbreak. The information  
11 released may be a public release or may be limited to  
12 specific individuals with a need to know the information,  
13 as the livestock board deems the circumstances require.

14

15 (c) For the purposes of this section, Wyoming  
16 livestock owners may choose to identify animals using any  
17 methods set forth in 9 C.F.R. part 86, as adopted on  
18 January 9, 2013, as well as any additional methods that are  
19 later approved by the federal government as "official  
20 identification".

21

1       (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to  
2 limit or amend the brucellosis surveillance or testing  
3 program administered by the state.

4  
5       ~~(e)~~(e) A person who knowingly provides false  
6 information to the Wyoming livestock board for purposes of  
7 a ~~national~~—livestock identification program shall be guilty  
8 of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to one thousand  
9 dollars (\$1,000.00), imprisonment for up to six (6) months,  
10 or both.

11  
12       ~~(d)~~(f) A person who refuses to provide to the  
13 livestock board information that is required under the  
14 authority of the livestock board for purposes of a  
15 mandatory ~~national~~—livestock identification program shall  
16 be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to  
17 one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), imprisonment for up to  
18 six (6) months, or both.

19  
20       **Section 2.** The Wyoming livestock board and state  
21 veterinarian shall promulgate any rules necessary to  
22 implement this act.

23

1           **Section 3.**

2

3           (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
4 section, this act is effective July 1, 2021.

5

6           (b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective  
7 immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a  
8 bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of  
9 the Wyoming Constitution.

10

(END)