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HOUSE BILL

**55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

INTRODUCED BY

DISCUSSION DRAFT

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE NEW MEXICO LIVESTOCK BOARD; AUTHORIZING THE NEW MEXICO LIVESTOCK BOARD TO CONDUCT MEAT INSPECTIONS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND QUALITY OF MEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** Section 77-2-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1967, Chapter 213, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"77-2-7. ADDITIONAL POWERS OF THE BOARD.--In addition to the powers transferred from the cattle and sheep sanitary boards, the board may:

A. exercise general regulatory supervision over the livestock industry of this state in order to protect the industry from theft and diseases and in order to protect the public from diseased or unwholesome meat or meat products;

B. appoint and fix the salary of an executive

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

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1 director who shall file an oath and be bonded [~~in an amount~~  
2 ~~fixed by the board~~]. The director shall manage the affairs of  
3 the board under the direction of the board. [~~He~~] The director  
4 shall be chosen solely on qualifications and fitness for the  
5 office. [~~He~~] The director shall devote [~~his entire~~] all time  
6 in office to the duties of the office;

7 C. employ clerical help, provide office space and  
8 purchase equipment, including vehicles;

9 D. employ [~~livestock~~] inspectors [~~and brand~~  
10 ~~inspectors~~] and other personnel necessary to carry out the  
11 purposes of The Livestock Code. All livestock inspectors  
12 appointed by the board shall have the same powers as any other  
13 peace officer in the enforcement of that code;

14 E. appoint a state veterinarian and subordinate  
15 veterinarians as are necessary to carry out the duties of the  
16 board;

17 F. adopt and promulgate rules to control the  
18 importation and exportation of animals;

19 G. establish livestock inspection districts;

20 H. establish quarantine, provide its boundaries and  
21 give notice of the quarantine and do all other things necessary  
22 to effect the object of the quarantine and to protect the  
23 livestock industry of this state from disease and prevent the  
24 spread of disease;

25 I. adopt and promulgate rules for meat inspection

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1 [including]:

2 (1) to ensure the safety and quality of meat  
3 for human consumption; and

4 (2) to include rules for the slaughter and  
5 disposition of the carcasses of livestock affected with  
6 diseases when the action appears necessary to prevent the  
7 spread of any contagion or infection among livestock;

8 J. adopt and promulgate rules governing the  
9 importation, manufacture, sale, distribution or use within the  
10 state of [~~serums, vaccine~~] sera, vaccines and other biologicals  
11 intended for diagnostic or therapeutic uses with livestock and  
12 regulate the importation, manufacture or use of virulent blood  
13 or living virus of any diseases affecting livestock;

14 K. set fees or charges, not to exceed one hundred  
15 dollars (\$100) per call, for any services rendered by the board  
16 or its employees that are deemed necessary by the board and for  
17 which no fee has been set by statute;

18 L. consider the views of the livestock industry in  
19 the administration of The Livestock Code;

20 M. adopt and promulgate rules to otherwise carry  
21 out the purposes of The Livestock Code;

22 N. hold hearings and subpoena witnesses for the  
23 purpose of investigating or enforcing The Livestock Code or  
24 rules established pursuant to that code; and

25 O. enter into joint powers agreements with Indian

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1 nations, tribes or pueblos to promote cooperation in carrying  
2 out the provisions of The Livestock Code."

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