

SENATE BILL 143

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

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This document may incorporate amendments proposed by a committee, but not yet adopted, as well as amendments that have been adopted during the current legislative session. The document is a tool to show amendments in context and cannot be used for the purpose of adding amendments to legislation.

AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE; UPDATING FEES FOR CERTAIN NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE REGULATORY DUTIES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25-6-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963, Chapter 138, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

"25-6-9. EGG INSPECTION FEE.--The Egg Grading Act shall be financed in part by the collection of a fee on all eggs sold

.232981.1SAAIC February 7, 2026 (9:10am)

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to the retailer or consumer. SFC→~~The board [shall have] has authority to establish the fee at [their] its discretion, but [in no case shall] the fee shall not exceed [one-half cent per dozen] twenty cents (\$.20) per case.~~←SFC SFC→**The fee on eggs being sold to the retailer or consumer shall be one-half cent (\$.005) per dozen; provided that the board may index the amount of the fee for inflation until July 1, 2031 using the consumer price index for all urban consumers: all items published by the United States department of labor.**←SFC The fee shall be paid by the egg dealer or producer who packages the eggs for sale to the retailer or consumer. All money collected under the provisions of the Egg Grading Act shall be deposited with [the] New Mexico state university for the purposes of administering the provisions of that act and promoting the poultry industry and its products and shall be expended upon the order of the board in the same manner as other funds of [the] New Mexico state university."

SECTION 2. Section 25-6-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963, Chapter 138, Section 12, as amended) is amended to read:

"25-6-12. CERTIFICATION OF DEALERS.--

A. A small dealer's license is required of any person [firm or corporation who] that buys, sells or traffics in more than five cases and less than two hundred cases of eggs in any one week.

B. A [medium-sized] medium dealer's license is

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required of any person [firm or corporation who] that buys, sells or traffics in [ever] more than two hundred cases and [~~less~~] fewer than four hundred cases of eggs in any one week.

C. A large dealer's license is required of any person [firm or corporation who] that buys, sells or traffics in [ever] more than four hundred cases of eggs in any one week.

D. The annual license SFC→~~fees~~←SFC SFC→~~fee~~←SFC for each type of dealer SFC→~~are~~←SFC SFC→~~is~~←SFC :

(1) small dealer.....

SFC→~~[\$10.00]~~←SFC SFC→~~\$10.00~~←SFC SFC→~~\$20.00~~←SFC

(2) medium dealer.....

SFC→~~[\$25.00]~~←SFC SFC→~~\$25.00~~←SFC SFC→~~\$50.00~~←SFC

(3) large dealer.....

SFC→~~[\$50.00]~~←SFC SFC→~~\$50.00~~←SFC SFC→~~\$100.~~←SFC SFC→;

provided that the board may index the amount of a fee for inflation until July 1, 2031 using the consumer price index for all urban consumers: all items published by the United States department of labor.←SFC

E. For the purpose of this section, a "case" [shall consist] consists of thirty dozen eggs.

F. All licenses shall be conspicuously posted in the place of business to which they apply. The license is subject to revocation by the inspectors for cause. [All licenses issued prior to the effective date of the Egg Grading Act shall expire when the act becomes effective and thereafter]

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All licenses are renewable annually on July 1 [of each year] and shall expire on June 30 of the succeeding year."

SECTION 3. Section 76-4-22 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973, Chapter 366, Section 22, as amended) is amended to read:

"76-4-22, FEES, --

A. Fees for the registration of pesticides, the various licenses, inspection of apparatuses and examination of applicants required by the Pesticide Control Act shall be set by the board not to exceed the amount authorized below:

(3) annual pest management consultant license,

(4) annual commercial pesticide applicator license, not more than

SFC→[\$100]←SFC SFC→\$100←SFC SFC→\$150←SFC ;
(5) annual operator license, not more

than . . . SEC \rightarrow ~~\$75.00~~ \leftarrow SEC SEC \rightarrow ~~\$75.00~~ \leftarrow SEC SEC \rightarrow ~~\$100~~ \leftarrow SEC :

(6) annual noncommercial applicator license.

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renewal registration or license is issued. Any person holding a current valid license may renew the license for the next year without taking an examination unless the department determines that additional knowledge relating to the classification for which the applicant has applied makes a new examination necessary. However, if the license is not renewed within thirty days after expiration, the licensee shall be required to take new certification examinations."

SECTION 4. Section 76-5-26 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973, Chapter 97, Section 15, as amended) is amended to read:

"76-5-26. FEES.--

A. Fees paid for the licenses, certificates and permits required under the Plant Protection Act shall be set by [regulation] rule of the board SFC→~~but shall not exceed~~←SFC SFC→in←SFC the following amounts SFC→, except as provided in this subsection←SFC :

(1) annual inspection fee of nursery and nursery stock, SFC→~~seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) plus two dollars (\$2.00)~~←SFC SFC→seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) plus two dollars (\$2.00)←SFC SFC→one hundred dollars (\$100) plus three dollars (\$3.00)←SFC per acre of nursery stock inspected;

(2) annual special inspection fee for person growing only vegetable plants, SFC→~~twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)~~←SFC SFC→twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)←SFC SFC→thirty-five dollars (\$35.00)←SFC ;

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(3) annual nursery or florist dealer's, landscaper's or agent's license fee, SFC→~~seventy-five dollars (\$75.00)~~←SFC SFC→**seventy-five dollars (\$75.00)**←SFC SFC→**one hundred dollars (\$100)**←SFC ;

(4) annual special dealer's license for persons who handle only vegetable or cactus plants, SFC→~~twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)~~←SFC SFC→**twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)**←SFC SFC→~~thirty-five dollars (\$35.00)~~←SFC ; and

(5) annual fee for collected plants permit, SFC→~~seventy-five dollars (\$75.00)~~←SFC SFC→**seventy-five dollars (\$75.00)**←SFC SFC→**one hundred dollars (\$100)**←SFC .

B. If the application for renewal of any annual license, permit or certificate provided for in the Plant Protection Act is not filed prior to the expiration of the prior license, permit or certificate, the fee for such license, permit or certificate shall be double the amount specified in this section. However, this double fee shall not apply if the applicant has not engaged in business subsequent to the expiration of ~~his~~ the prior license, permit or certificate and furnishes an affidavit certifying to that fact.

C. SFC→**The board may index the amount of a fee for inflation until July 1, 2031 using the consumer price index, all urban consumers: all items published by the United States department of labor.**←SFC The board may adopt ~~regulations~~

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rules to exempt a person from the payment of fees."

SECTION 5. Section 76-11-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963, Chapter 184, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"76-11-4. FERTILIZER REGISTRATION.--

A. Each brand and grade of fertilizer and each soil conditioner product shall be registered before being distributed in the state. The application for registration shall be submitted to the department on a form furnished by the department and shall be accompanied by a fee of [five dollars (\$5.00)] fifty dollars (\$50.00) per brand or grade. [except that those brands or grades sold in packages of five pounds or less shall be registered at a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) each] SFC→The board may index the amount of the fee for inflation until July 1, 2031 using the consumer price index, all urban consumers: all items published by the United States department of labor. ←SFC Upon approval by the department, a copy of the registration shall be furnished to the applicant. All registrations expire on December 31 of each year.

B. A distributor shall not be required to register a brand of fertilizer or soil conditioner that is already registered under the New Mexico Fertilizer Act by another person.

C. A distributor shall not be required to register a fertilizer formulated according to specifications that are furnished by a consumer prior to mixing but shall be required

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to label the fertilizer as provided in Subsection C of Section 76-11-5 NMSA 1978."

SECTION 6. Section 76-11-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963, Chapter 184, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"76-11-6. FERTILIZER INSPECTION FEES.--

A. There shall be paid to the department for all fertilizer and soil conditioner distributed in the state in packages exceeding five pounds an inspection fee set by the board at a rate SFC→~~not to exceed~~←SFC SFC→~~[thirty-five cents~~
 ~~(\$.35) a ton; provided that sales to manufacturers or exchanges~~
~~between them are exempted]~~←SFC SFC→~~thirty-five cents~~ (\$.35) a ton; provided that sales to manufacturers or exchanges between them are exempted←SFC SFC→~~ninety cents~~ (\$.90) a ton←SFC, but not less than five dollars (\$5.00) per reporting period. For each brand of fertilizer or soil conditioner distributed in individual packages of five pounds or less, a distributor shall pay an annual inspection fee SFC→~~not to exceed~~←SFC SFC→~~of~~←SFC ten dollars (\$10.00) and shall not pay the tonnage fee on such packages of the brand so registered. SFC→~~The board may index the amount of a fee for inflation until July 1, 2031 using the consumer price index, all urban consumers: all items published by the United States department of labor.~~←SFC Fees so collected shall be used for the payment of the costs of inspection, sampling and analysis and other expenses necessary for the administration of the New Mexico Fertilizer Act.

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[B. On individual packages of fertilizer or soil conditioner containing five pounds or less, there shall be paid in lieu of the annual registration fee of five dollars (\$5.00) per brand and grade of fertilizer and each soil conditioner product and the required inspection fee an annual registration fee and inspection fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00). Where a person sells fertilizer or soil conditioner in packages of five pounds or less and in packages over five pounds, the annual registration and inspection fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) applies only to that portion sold in packages of five pounds or less, and that portion sold in packages over five pounds is subject to the inspection fee.

C.] B. A person who distributes a fertilizer or soil conditioner in the state shall file with the department on forms furnished by the department a quarterly statement for the periods ending March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 setting forth the number of net tons of each fertilizer or soil conditioner distributed in the state during the quarter. The report is due on or before the last day of the month following the close of each quarter. The inspection fee shall be paid at the time of filing of the statement. If the tonnage report is not filed and the payment of inspection fee is not made within thirty days after the end of the quarter, a collection fee amounting to ten percent, but not less than ten dollars (\$10.00), of the amount shall be assessed against the

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registrant, and the amount of fees due constitutes a debt and becomes the basis of a judgment against the registrant.

[D.] C. When more than one person is involved in the distribution of fertilizer or soil conditioner, the first person who has the fertilizer or soil conditioner registered and who distributes to a nonregistrant dealer or consumer is responsible for reporting the tonnage and paying the inspection fee unless the report and payment have been previously made by a prior distributor."

SECTION 7. Section 76-19A-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2013, Chapter 23, Section 12) is amended to read:

"76-19A-12. INSPECTION FEES--REPORTS--CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATIONS.--

A. An inspection fee set by the board shall be paid to the board for all commercial feeds distributed in New Mexico. The fee shall SFC➔~~not exceed~~◀SFC [fifteen cents (\$.15)] SFC➔~~forty-five cents (\$.45)~~◀SFC SFC➔be twenty-five cents (\$.25)◀SFC per ton, but not less than five dollars (\$5.00) per reporting period, or, for each brand of commercial feed distributed in individual packages of ten pounds or less, a distributor shall pay an annual inspection fee SFC➔~~not to exceed~~◀SFC SFC➔of◀SFC twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and shall not pay the tonnage fee on such packages of the brand so registered.

B. SFC➔~~Fees collected shall not exceed the costs of~~◀SFC .232981.1SAAIC February 7, 2026 (9:10am)

~~inspection, sampling and analysis and other expenses necessary~~

~~for the administration of the New Mexico Commercial Feed~~

Act. ~~←SFC SFC→~~ The board may index the amount of a fee for inflation until July 1, 2031 using the consumer price index, all urban consumers: all items published by the United States department of labor. ~~←SFC~~ Fees collected shall constitute a fund for the payment of the costs of inspection, sampling and analysis and other expenses necessary for the administration of that act.

C. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who distributes commercial feed in New Mexico shall:

(1) file, not later than the last day of January, April, July and October of each year, a quarterly statement setting forth the number of net tons of commercial feeds distributed in New Mexico during the preceding calendar quarter and, upon filing the statement, shall pay the inspection fee. When more than one person is involved in the distribution of commercial feed, the person who distributes to the consumer is responsible for reporting the tonnage and paying the inspection fee unless the report and payment have been made by a prior distributor of the feed; and

(2) keep such records as may be necessary or required by the board to indicate accurately the tonnage of commercial feeds distributed in New Mexico, and the board may examine those records to verify statements of tonnage. If a

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quarterly report is not filed or if the inspection fee is not paid within the thirty-day period after the end of a quarter, a penalty of twenty percent, or a sum of ten dollars (\$10.00), whichever is greater, ~~will~~ shall be due in addition to the inspection fees, and the inspection fees and the penalty shall constitute a debt for which suit may be brought by the board.

D. Failure to make an accurate statement of tonnage or to pay the inspection fee or comply with the provisions of the New Mexico Commercial Feed Act shall constitute sufficient cause for the cancellation of all registrations on file for the distributor."

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2026.

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