

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Garrett Love at 8:30am on Monday, March 14, 2016, 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Mitch Holmes – Excused
Senator Ralph Ostmeyer – Excused

Committee staff present:

David Wiese, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Fran Lusk, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Kyle Hamilton, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dr. Bill Brown, Animal Health Commissioner, Kansas Department of Agriculture
Mike Beam, Vice President, Kansas Livestock Association

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Hearing and possible action on: HB2480 — Amendments to livestock brand law.

Chairperson Love opened the hearing on **HB2840 - Amendments to livestock brand laws**, and gave the floor to David Wiese, Office of the Revisor, for the bill brief. ([Attachment 1](#))

Dr. Bill Brown, KS Department of Agriculture, testified in support of **HB2480**. Dr. Brown indicated Kansas is one of nation's leaders in the cattle industry. Brand inspection is not mandatory in Kansas, brands have and continue to provide a visual means of identification, especially in cases of strayed or stolen livestock. Livestock brands will continue to play an important role in showing ownership of cattle in Kansas, and changes proposed in **HB2480** will simply reflect the current needs of Kansas cattlemen and women. ([Attachment 2](#))

Mike Beam, KS Livestock Association, testified in support of **HB2480**. Mr. Beam outlined five different policy changes of **HB2480**:

- There are currently three fee funds for brand inspection revenues. **HB2480** repeals the "livestock brand emergency revolving fund" and the "county option brand fee fund".
- **HB2840** shortens (from 180 days to 60 days) the time frame from when a brand owner fails to pay his/her brand renewal registration to when the brand is available to be registered by another person.
- **HB2840** would allow an individual numeral or serial brand, that's not a registered ownership brand, to be used without designating this type of brand with their registered brand.
- **HB2840** amends current law (K.S.A. 47-423), which allows a person bringing branded cattle

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Agriculture at 8:30am on Monday, March 14, 2016 in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

into Kansas from another state for the purpose of grazing or feeding cattle for a period not to exceed 12 months.

- **HB2840** repeals the county option brand laws, including K.S.A 47-434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, and 442. ([Attachment 3](#))

After a brief question and answer period, Chairperson Love closed the hearing on **HB2840**.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2016.