SENATE BILL No. 549

By Committee on Agriculture

2-8

AN ACT concerning livestock producers; relating to immunity from liability in certain circumstances.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1.   (a) As used in this section: (1) "Livestock" means live or dead cattle, sheep, swine or goats;

(2)   "meat food product" means any product and byproduct of the slaughtering and meatpacking industry, if edible;

(3)   "producer" means any person engaged in the business of breeding, grazing or feeding livestock but does not include a packer; and

(4)   "packer" means any person engaged in the business of: (A) Buying livestock in commerce for purposes of slaughter;

(B)   manufacturing or preparing any meat or meat food product for sale or shipment in commerce; or

(C)   marketing any meat, meat food product or livestock product in an unmanufactured form acting as a wholesale broker, dealer or distributor in commerce.

(b)   A livestock producer shall not be liable for damages in a civil action caused by a meat food product: (1) Derived from livestock that state or federal officials inspected premortem and approved for slaughter;

(2)   derived from livestock that state or federal officials inspected postmortem and approved; or

(3)   that was inspected and approved by state or federal officials.

Sec. 2.   This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.