

1 SENATE BILL 56

2 57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pat Woods

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO LIVESTOCK; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE LIVESTOCK
12 CODE; RESTRICTING ACCESS TO CERTAIN INFORMATION DURING AN
13 EPIDEMIC.

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

16 SECTION 1. A new section of The Livestock Code, Section
17 77-3-13.1 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

18 "77-3-13.1. [NEW MATERIAL] RESTRICTIONS ON INFORMATION
19 ACCESS.--

20 A. When the board or any of its authorized
21 representatives finds pursuant to Section 77-3-13 NMSA 1978
22 that a disease has become epidemic or exists in a locality in a
23 country, state or territory beyond the limits of this state,
24 the board or any of its authorized representatives may deny
25 access to the following information regarding persons involved

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1 with the livestock industry if the dissemination of such
2 information would cause harm to such persons or would be
3 contrary to the public interest:

4 (1) specific operational details of livestock
5 operations, including:

6 (a) ownership, numbers, locations and
7 movements of livestock;

8 (b) financial information;

9 (c) the purchase and sale of livestock;

10 (d) account numbers or unique
11 identifiers issued by government or private entities;

12 (e) operational protocols; and

13 (f) participation in an all-hazards
14 security system;

15 (2) information related to livestock disease
16 or injury that:

17 (a) would identify a person or location;
18 or

19 (b) contains confidential data pursuant
20 to the veterinarian-patient-client privilege pursuant to
21 Subsection S of Section 16.25.3.8 NMAC; and

22 (3) records of ongoing investigations that
23 pertain to livestock.

24 B. Information shall not be withheld pursuant to
25 Subsection A of this section if an investigation by the board

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1 has concluded and the person being investigated is found by the
2 board or its authorized representatives to have violated any
3 provision of The Livestock Code that pertains to livestock.

4 C. If access to information is denied pursuant to
5 Subsection A of this section, the board or any of its
6 authorized representatives shall redact confidential
7 information and make the remaining information available for
8 disclosure.

9 D. Nothing in this section shall be construed to
10 authorize the board or any of its authorized representatives to
11 obtain information not otherwise permitted by law.

12 E. Nothing in this section shall:

13 (1) preclude a person in interest from
14 accessing the person's own information;

15 (2) prevent the release of biological
16 livestock samples to authorized third-party entities for
17 scientific testing, so long as the testing entity agrees to
18 maintain the confidentiality of the information it receives; or

19 (3) apply when the board or its authorized
20 representatives determine that disclosure of livestock
21 information is necessary to prevent or address an immediate
22 threat to the health and safety of a person or animal.

23 F. When disclosing information pursuant to
24 Subsection E of this section, the board or its authorized
25 representatives shall release only as much information as is

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necessary to address the situation."

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