Legislature - First Session - 2015

Introducer's Statement of Intent

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Chairperson: Senator Jerry Johnson

Committee: Agriculture

Date of Hearing: January 20, 2015

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 91 would repeal a series of outdated livestock disease provisions. Those provisions are:

- (1) §§54-1513 to 54-1521, Hog Cholera Control and Eradication Act, along with related statutory provisions, §§54-1501 to 54-1512, relating to the destruction of hog cholera diseased swine; and §§54-1522 to 54-1523, relating to double inoculation against [hog] cholera. Hog Cholera, now known as Classical Swine Fever, has been reclassified as a foreign animal disease in the United States. Due to its reclassification as a foreign animal disease, the protocol for dealing with hog cholera will be directed by and under the supervision of the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services; thereby making current statutes moot.
- (2) provisions governing domestic animal scabies, <u>Neb.Rev. Stat.</u> §§54-724.01 to 54-724.02, and sheep scabies, §§54-1401 to 54-1401 to 54-1411. Provisions governing domestic animal scabies were enacted in 1927, at a time when the disease was prevalent and difficult to treat. With the introduction of veterinary medical treatments, such as Avermectins, the current provisions governing domestic animal and sheep scabies is outdated.
- (3) §54-726.04, which was initially used by the Department to control vesicular exanthema of swine. The disease of vesicular exanthema is considered to be a foreign animal disease in the United States, and regulation of swine, generally, is now governed by other Department statutes.

Senator Jerry Johnson