

The Kentucky Livestock Coalition met this week and is encouraging more active participation in the legislative process of SB 105. This bill was approved unanimously in the Senate and awaits House action. Please review the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association Legislative Report and contact your State Representative.

Please find other news of interest following the KCA Legislative Report.



KCA Legislative Report

SB 105 was introduced to House Agriculture and Small Business Committee this week. It is unknown at this time when the bill will be heard, but it is very important that **YOU** call your representatives! Please open the attachment to see a list of all Representatives that serve on the House Ag Committee, the list also includes their phone numbers and the counties that they represent. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO OUR INDUSTRY THAT THIS BILL PASSES!**

To contact your representative please call (502)564-8100 and ask for the office of the representative you would like to speak with.

Talking Points to utilize when speaking with your Representative:

- According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, in 2008 Kentucky's livestock and poultry production accounted for nearly \$3 billion in cash receipts, so it worth protecting.
- Animal care is of utmost importance to Kentucky's agricultural producers. This is best exemplified by the high levels of production and low mortality rates achieved in modern livestock and poultry operations.
- Kentucky farmers recognize that proper animal care practices lead to the production of high-quality products. We know it's in our best interest to adopt proven production practices, and we recognize that we are morally and legally responsible for the proper care of our animals.

- Anti-animal agriculture groups, like the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), will oppose this bill. They will argue that the commission is made up of agriculture-friendly representation.
- HSUS, along with other animal rights groups, has stated their goal is to eliminate animal-based protein from the human diet, based on emotion rather than sound science and research.
- Please keep in mind that HSUS is NOT affiliated with your local animal shelter. In fact, only a little more than \$450,000, or just half of one percent of HSUS's total budget, went to organizations throughout the United States that provide hands-on care to dogs and cats.

Thanks for your support!

Janna Miller

**Kentucky Cattlemen's Association
Industry Relations Coordinator**

Other News of Interest

The United Egg Board has released a copy of the video "It's a Tough Job!" featuring Mike Rowe, host of the show Dirty Jobs. This is a great informational video about modern egg production and essentially defends the methods we use today

Check out the video at www.unitedegg.com It will be on the left-hand side bar of your screen. It will take about 12 minutes to watch. For more information contact Melissa at Kentucky Poultry Federation.



"Kentucky's #2 Ag Commodity"



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HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE U.S. SUED FOR RACKETEERING AND CORRUPTION
Source: Center for Consumer Freedom news release

http://www.consumerfreedom.com/news_detail.cfm/h/4112-yes-wayne-lets-follow-the-money

In a landmark RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act) lawsuit certain to have far-reaching implications for the animal rights movement, Feld Entertainment and the Ringling Brothers circus sued the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), its lawyers, and several other animal rights groups last week.

The nonprofit Center for Consumer Freedom (CCF) unearthed the lawsuit in federal court records today. CCF is making the lawsuit available online at its newest website, www.HumaneWatch.org.

"America's farmers, ranchers, hunters, fishermen, research scientists, fashion designers, and restaurateurs have seen for decades how the animal rights movement can behave like a mobbed-up racket," said CCF Director of Research David Martosko. "But it's still shocking to see the evidence laid out on paper.

The Center for Consumer Freedom is a nonprofit watchdog organization that informs the public about the activities of tax-exempt activist groups. It is supported by American consumers, business organizations, and foundations.

MISSOURI BEEF ASSOC. LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE TO KEEP MEMBERS INFORMED ABOUT ACTIVISTS ATTACKS

Source: Missouri Beef Industry Council

The Missouri Beef Industry Council has launched a social media Web program called "Farmer Freedom" to keep Missouri's 60,000 beef producers informed about activist attacks on agriculture and equip them to become "pro-activists."

The program, located at www.farmerfreedom.com, was launched to protect farmer freedom to operate and help ensure grocery shoppers enjoy a continued supply of low-cost, nutritious food, according to executive director John Kleiboeker.

Internet and big-city media are increasingly churning out stories planted by activist groups that spread myths about farming, question food safety, claim cow burps are melting ice caps or even claim that eating beef is immoral, Kleiboeker says. "Most farmers are too busy caring for their cattle and tending their crops to keep tabs on these threats, so we've decided to help them stay informed with farmerfreedom.com."

CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS, LIVESTOCK GROUPS HOLD EDUCATIONAL BRIEFINGS ON ANTIBIOTICS

Source: NCBA/NCC/NMPF/NPPC/NTF/AMI/NMA joint news release
[http://www.cattlenetwork.com/Congressional Briefing](http://www.cattlenetwork.com/Congressional%20Briefing)

Livestock and poultry groups hosted educational briefings on Capitol Hill to share the facts about the importance of tools like antibiotics in raising healthy food animals. The informational sessions were co-hosted by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association through beef checkoff funding, the National Chicken Council, National Pork Producers Council, National Milk Producers Federation, National Turkey Federation, American Meat Institute and National Meat Association.

The briefings were held in cooperation with U.S. Reps. David Scott (D-GA), Randy Neugebauer (R-TX), Zack Space (D-OH) and Roy Blunt (R-MO) and by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA). Top livestock and poultry health experts from across the country presented information to attendees.

MASTERS OF BEEF ADVOCACY PROGRAM TOPS 2,000 PARTICIPANTS

Source: Cattlemen's Beef Board news release
<http://www.beefboard.org/news/100223MBAHits2000Release.asp>

Since the Cattle Industry Convention the last week in January more than 300 new students have enrolled in the beef checkoff Masters of Beef Advocacy (MBA) program, pushing current students to more than 1,300. More than 100 students graduated in the first three weeks of February (788 total since March 2009) and it is anticipated that more than 150 will complete the courses by the end of the month.

With MBA commencements planned in Texas, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania and Kentucky in the next six weeks, the number of graduates should exceed 1,000 by the end of March, the one-year anniversary of program's launch. The single largest commencement to date will be held at Western Kentucky University on Feb. 26, where

more than 100 MBA grads are expected to attend.

After completing the program, participants will be ready to become everyday beef advocates and to get out and meet consumers where they live. This may be as simple as talking to friends, family and neighbors, or going out to broader audiences, such as schools, businesses and civic groups to tell the beef story.

The MBA program will ensure that producers and industry allies are delivering a consistent message and are prepared to talk beef with whomever they feel most comfortable with, whether it's a neighbor at the feed store, a newspaper reporter or an Internet blogger.