

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 48th Legislature (2002)

SENATE BILL 945

By: Easley

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to agriculture; creating the Market Inspection and Rural Theft Act; providing short title; creating the Market Inspection and Rural Theft Division of the State Department of Agriculture; authorizing the Board to promulgate rules; authorizing the Board to employ personnel; stating definition; stating qualifications of certain employees; authorizing certain agencies and associations to perform certain services at stockyards; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4-15 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Sections 1 through 4 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the "Market Inspection and Rural Theft Act".

B. Pursuant to the Market Inspection and Rural Theft Act, there is hereby created a Market Inspection and Rural Theft Division of the State Department of Agriculture.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4-16 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The State Board of Agriculture is authorized to promulgate rules for the administration and implementation of the Market Inspection and Rural Theft Act. For the performance of its duties and responsibilities, the Board is authorized to employ such personnel and agents as may be required within the funds available.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4-17 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. For purposes of the Market Inspection and Rural Theft Act, "Oklahoma Special Agent" means an investigator for the Market Inspection and Rural Theft Division of the State Department of Agriculture.

B. An Oklahoma Special Agent of the Market Inspection and Rural Theft Division shall be C.L.E.E.T. certified and knowledgeable in agriculture and investigative practices.

C. Such agents shall:

1. Conduct investigations into cattle thefts and other farm or ranch-related property or livestock;
2. Supervise market inspectors' working sales; and
3. Conform to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation guidelines and rules.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4-18 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Pursuant to the federal Packers and Stockyards Act, any authorized agency or association may make arrangements with the Livestock and Rural Theft Division of the State Department of Agriculture, to perform inspection service at stockyards on such terms and conditions as may be approved by the State Board of Agriculture; provided, that such arrangements will tend to further the purposes of this act and will not result in duplication of charges or services.

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective January 1, 2003.

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