

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, February 18, 2010

House Bill No. 2345

HOUSE BILL NO. 2345 - By: RICHARDSON AND FIELDS of the House.

An Act relating to agriculture; creating the Oklahoma Livestock Care Standards Board; stating purpose of the Board; stating duties of the Board; providing for membership; limiting composition of the Board; stating authority of the Board to establish certain standards; requiring consideration of certain factors; directing the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to administer and enforce the standards; providing for enactment of certain laws; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

1 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma
2 Statutes as Section 5-601 of Title 2, unless there is created a duplication in numbering,
3 reads as follows:

4 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Livestock Care Standards Board for the
5 purpose of establishing standards governing the care and well-being of livestock and
6 poultry in this state. In carrying out its purpose, the Board shall endeavor to maintain
7 food safety, encourage locally grown and raised food, and protect Oklahoma farms and
8 families. The Board shall be comprised of the following thirteen (13) members:

9 1. The Commissioner of Agriculture who shall be the chairperson of the Board;

1 2. Nine members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the
2 Senate. The nine members appointed by the Governor shall be residents of this state
3 and shall include the following:

- 4 a. one member representing family farms,
- 5 b. one member who is knowledgeable about food safety in this state,
- 6 c. two members representing statewide organizations that represent
7 farmers,
- 8 d. one member who is a veterinarian who is licensed in this state,
- 9 e. one member who is a dean of the agriculture department of an
10 institution that is a member of The Oklahoma State System of Higher
11 Education,
- 12 f. two members of the public representing Oklahoma consumers, and
- 13 g. one member representing a county humane society that is organized
14 under state law;

15 3. The State Veterinarian in the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and
16 Forestry; and

17 4. Two members who are family farmers, one selected by the Speaker of the House
18 of Representatives and one selected by the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate.

19 B. Not more than seven members appointed to the Board at any given time shall be
20 of the same political party.

21 C. The Board shall have authority to establish standards governing the care and
22 well-being of livestock and poultry in this state, subject to the authority of the

1 Legislature. In establishing those standards, the Board shall consider factors that
2 include, but are not limited to, agricultural best management practices for care and well-
3 being, biosecurity, disease prevention, animal morbidity and mortality data, food safety
4 practices, and the protection of local, affordable food supplies for consumers.

5 D. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall have the
6 authority to administer and enforce the standards established by the Board.

7 E. The Legislature may enact laws that it deems necessary to carry out the
8 purposes of this section, to facilitate the execution of the duties of the Board and the
9 Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry under this section, and to set
10 the terms of office of the Board members and conditions for service on the Board.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2010.

12 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL
13 DEVELOPMENT, dated 02-17-10 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.