

**Livestock Premise Registration
Proposed County Farm Bureau Resolution
2012 Policy Development Process**

Background Information

A Wisconsin law was enacted in 2005 that required livestock owners to register the locations where animals are housed with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). This is known as premise registration. Livestock is defined as cattle and other bovine animals, swine, poultry, sheep, goats, horses and other equine animals, farm-raised deer and other cervids, gamebirds, bison, llamas, ratites and fish. DATCP has contracted the registration of these premises with the Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium (WLIC).

To date, there has been no cost for farmers to register these premises. Originally, the program was funded by federal earmarks from USDA. Approximately \$1 million per year went to DATCP and WLIC for program costs, including education and outreach. Federal funding for the program has been eliminated. As a result, during Wisconsin's past legislation session, \$250,000 out of the operational funding was assigned to WLIC to keep the premise registration program going for another year. The Wisconsin Legislature also directed DATCP to propose a funding source for the premise registration program for the next state budget. If none is found, DATCP intends to turn the premise registration information over to the federal system operated by U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Current WFBF Policy

"We support the state's livestock premise registration program. However, we oppose fees on producers to pay for livestock premise registration and support suspending the program if there is no federal or state funding for the program."

Proposed Resolution

Delete the following: "However, we oppose fees on producers to pay for livestock premise registration and support suspending the program if there is no federal or state funding for the program." and replace with the following: "We support having producers and processors fund the program."

Note: The Policy Development Committee suggests this resolution to encourage county Farm Bureaus to discuss livestock premise registration.