
SENATE BILL 5956

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Schoesler, Shin, Stevens, Zarelli, Marr, and Benton

Read first time 02/10/09. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Rural Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to voluntary participation in a state or national
2 animal identification system; and adding a new section to chapter 16.57
3 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 16.57 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Voluntary participation in any state or national animal
8 identification system must be obtained with informed written consent.

9 (2) No officer, agency, or instrumentality of the state, in
10 conjunction with the implementation of any state or national animal
11 identification system, may:

12 (a) Mandate, coerce, use exclusionary tactics, support, or
13 otherwise force participation in a state or national animal
14 identification system;

15 (b) Register real property, assign real property identification
16 numbers, or otherwise enroll any person in a state or national animal
17 identification system without the person's prior knowledge and written
18 consent;

1 (c) Withhold, from any person, indemnity based on the person's
2 status of participation in a state or national animal identification
3 system; or

4 (d) Deny, revoke, or limit services, certificates, licenses,
5 permits, grants, or other benefits or incentives to any person based on
6 the person's status of participation in a state or national animal
7 identification system.

8 (3) Nothing in this section prohibits:

9 (a) The state from establishing or participating in disease control
10 programs specifically designed to address a specific disease in a
11 specific species of livestock;

12 (b) Private agricultural industry organizations from establishing
13 any source verification program; or

14 (c) Any person from voluntarily participating in a state or
15 national animal identification system.

16 (4) For the purposes of this section, "voluntary" means acting or
17 done without compulsion or obligation.

--- END ---