
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2019 Assembly Bill 812

**Assembly
Amendments 1 and 2**

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 812

Assembly Bill 812 requires the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to create and administer a voluntary program under which a person who has a registered livestock premises may obtain radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags for individual livestock. The RFID tag must include a 15-digit individual animal identification number that is connected to the livestock premises registration code for the animal's premises of origin. The bill also requires DATCP to maintain on its website a list of retailers that supply RFID tags and permits DATCP to contract with an agent to collect and maintain individual animal identification records.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Instead of requiring that DATCP maintain a list of RFID retailers on its website, Assembly Amendment 1 requires DATCP to maintain on its website a link to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's list of authorized animal identification number devices manufacturers.

The amendment also authorizes DATCP to promulgate rules as necessary to adapt to future advances in technology, including substituting RFID tags with another technology if RFID technology becomes obsolete.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 2

Assembly Amendment 2 provides that individual animal identification records held by DATCP or by an agent with whom DATCP has contracted are not subject to copying or inspection under Wisconsin public records law. The amendment also provides that DATCP or an agent may not disclose such records unless certain exceptions apply, including that such records may be released if DATCP believes that the release is necessary to prevent or control disease or to protect public health, safety, or welfare.

The exceptions to disclosure of individual animal identification records under the amendment are the same as those that apply to the disclosure of information received by DATCP or a contracting agent for the purpose of livestock premises registration under current law.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Tauchen introduced Assembly Bill 812 on January 27, 2020, and offered Assembly Amendment 1 on February 3, 2020. On February 6, 2020, the Assembly Committee on Rural Development recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 0.

The committee also introduced and recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 2 on votes of Ayes, 12; Noes, 0. The committee recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 0.

RES:jal