



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2003 Assembly Bill 812

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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Assembly Bill 812 creates a system of livestock premises registration, to be administered by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). The bill defines “livestock” to mean bovine animals, equine animals, goats, poultry, sheep, swine, farm-raised deer, and any other animal that DATCP identifies by rule. A person who is required to register a livestock premises under the bill must provide information to DATCP relating to the registrant’s name and business address, the location where the registrant keeps livestock, the type of livestock, and the type of livestock operation. DATCP will assign a premises code to each location, in compliance with the U.S. Department of Agriculture standards, and maintain a database with the codes and related information. DATCP is authorized to contract with an agent to administer the livestock premises registration program. Information provided by a registrant to DATCP or the agent must be kept confidential and is not a public record. Confidential information may be released upon authorization by the registrant or by DATCP if necessary to prevent or control disease or protect public health, safety, or welfare.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 deletes the provisions of the bill that require registration of a premises where more than 20 poultry or five equine animals are kept, thus requiring registration where any poultry or equine animals are kept. Under the bill, in a provision not affected by the substitute amendment, DATCP may promulgate rules specifying exemptions from the registration requirement, including exemptions based on the number and type of livestock kept by a person or on the type of locations where a person keeps livestock. The substitute amendment deletes from the bill a provision that allows DATCP to require a person to provide any other relevant information (in addition to that specified in the statute) as part of the registration. The substitute amendment requires DATCP to promulgate rules to govern the release of aggregate information by the department (i.e., a summary of information provided by registrants that does not reveal confidential information), and prohibits the department from authorizing its agent to release aggregate information.

Legislative History

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was introduced by the Assembly Committee on Agriculture and recommended for passage on February 19, 2004, on a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0.

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