



# **Law Enforcement (LAW) Committee**

*Policies for Review*

*September 2018*

**Video and Satellite Auction Brand Inspection  
(LAW-1)**

WHEREAS, TSCRA operates one of the most effective and efficient livestock brand inspection systems in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the inspection system has resulted in the recovery of millions of dollars of livestock and ranch property annually; and

WHEREAS, the inspection system has acted as a deterrent to the theft of these properties; and

WHEREAS, video auction markets have become a substantial marketing agency for the sale of cattle throughout Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA supports a change in the Packers and Stockyards Act, consistent with the spirit and intent of the act, that would authorize the inspection of cattle sold by video and satellite auction marketing organizations at the time of delivery; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA will include in its inspections, cattle or horses in any system which may be authorized by the Act or the State of Texas.

*new 3/25/92, renewed 10/2/09, renewed 9/26/14*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Border Security  
(LAW-2)**

WHEREAS, the 1,254 miles of Texas-Mexico border is porous and insufficiently secured by the U.S. government which threatens the livelihood of border residents and our nation's domestic security by allowing individuals, drugs and weapons to enter the U.S. illegally; and

WHEREAS, ranchers and landowners along the border are regularly becoming victims of bodily harm, property damage, theft, intimidation and other violence by armed trespassers; and

WHEREAS, many of the illegal aliens apprehended are other than Mexican (OTM), are from numerous other countries, and have connections to global terrorist groups; and

WHEREAS, this illegal activity decreases property value, increases landowner's liability and costs, and leads to an overall loss of liberty; and

WHEREAS, the continued rise in violence along the Texas-Mexico border threatens the security our nation's food supply and overall economy by creating animal health risks and trade barriers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA demands that the U.S. government take immediate actions to gain control of the Texas - Mexico border, especially in remote areas of Texas, and bring safety and security to residents living and working along the border and to citizens throughout the nation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA demands that the U.S. Congress and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) dedicate ample resources to border security efforts by:

1. Maintaining sufficient law enforcement personnel, especially in remote areas of Texas, to properly secure the border and provide them with sufficient authority, equipment and training; and
2. Allocating additional resources to state, county and local law enforcement agencies for border security; and
3. Implementing effective technology and surveillance programs to supply local, state and federal law enforcement officials and local landowners with valuable information related to border control efforts; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA supports an increase in the number of check stations along the Texas-Mexico border; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA supports state and federal laws be strengthened to better protect landowners from liability resulting from illegal border activities and, when feasible, reimbursement to landowners for property damages caused by illegal border activities; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA strongly supports the continued inspection of cattle on the Mexican side of the border over the long-term and demands that the U.S. Congress and USDA provide funding and resources for more secure federal and state inspections to occur.

*new 9/26/12, revised 9/26/14*

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

### **Immigration Reform (LAW-6)**

WHEREAS, the issue of illegal immigration continues to plague the United States; and

WHEREAS, there is a continued need for efficient, effective, and economical guest worker laws and programs that allow immigrants to work in the United States without placing excessive bureaucratic burdens on employers; and

WHEREAS, such laws and programs should achieve the highest level of immigrant compliance and enrollment as possible; and

WHEREAS, TSCRA is vitally interested in the immigration laws and programs of the United States because they affect ranchers and their ability to have a dependable and legal workforce; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of illegal immigrants crossing the border are seeking work and do not want to become U.S. citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA supports federal immigration laws and programs that are efficient, economical, and able to effectively provide the cattle industry with a legal labor workforce while protecting borders and the nation against problems associated with illegal immigration; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA oppose any federal immigration laws and programs that grant amnesty to immigrants; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that any federal immigration and guest worker laws and programs contain the following:

1. Recognition that the cattle industry is not a seasonal agricultural industry, and it requires an appropriate length of time for immigrant guest workers to stay in the U.S. before they are required to return to their home country for any period of time; and
2. Appropriate touch-back provisions that require immigrant guest workers to return to their home country for a given total length of time during their guest worker status in the U.S., but should allow for flexibility on when the required touch-back time is taken and on the required length of stay of any required touch-backs; and
3. Require a tamper-proof identification for immigrant workers so that employers, following the proper laws and procedures, can make proper identification without fear of enforcement and/or prosecution; and
4. Require any immigrant worker who has committed a felony while in the United States, or has violated a court order for deportation while legally in the United States, to be denied access to U.S. citizenship, temporary visa, and/or guest worker programs; and
5. That the processing of applicants for citizenship filed prior to the implementation of any changes to federal immigration laws and/or programs be accomplished first, after which all other applicants should be processed in a timely manner.

*new 10/25/03, revised 3/21/05, revised 10/2/09, revised 6/17/11, revised 9/27/13, renewed 9/26/14*

## **RECOMMENDATION:**