



Marketing and Transportation (MKT) Committee

Policies for Review

September 2018

**Support for Beef Quality Assurance Programs
(MKT-1)**

WHEREAS, TSCRA should take a leading role in the State of Texas to arm producers with the education needed to overcome management-influenced beef quality problems that affect overall demand and to promote pride in producing quality Texas beef; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Beef Quality Producer program receives significant support from the Texas Beef Council and Texas AgriLife Extension Service;

WHEREAS, the Texas Beef Quality Producer program meets national Beef Quality Assurance program standards; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA continues to support a Beef Quality Assurance training and certification program.

new 3/15/00, revised 10/2/09, renewed 9/27/13, renewed 9/26/14

RECOMMENDATION: RENEW

**Livestock Marketing Reporting
(MKT-9)**

WHEREAS, cattle producer access to transparent, timely, and comprehensive livestock market reports provides an important information resource; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act was passed to substantially increase the volume of industry sales transactions covered by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) market news reports and thereby encourage competition in the industry; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Livestock Mandatory Reporting was re-established and revised; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the Texas Legislature eliminated funding for market reports from 18 livestock markets as well as a hotline recording of livestock, boxed beef, and futures prices; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA endorses the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act and urges the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and USDA reporting services implement the law; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA urges continuous improvement of livestock market reporting data detail, timeliness, and accuracy; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA supports funding for the continuation of TDA livestock market and grain reports.

new 7/13/91, revised 10/2/09, revised 9/27/13, renewed 9/26/14

RECOMMENDATION: RENEW

**Free Trade
(MKT-12)**

WHEREAS, TSCRA supports the concept of free and fair trading rules in the global marketplace for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, bilateral trade agreements sometimes remove pressure from countries to earnestly negotiate in important multilateral negotiations that can benefit many exporting and importing nations resulting in fairer trade rules for all producers and consumers globally; and

WHEREAS, Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) allows the President of the United States to negotiate trade agreements that Congress can either approve or reject, but not amend; and

WHEREAS, TPA has consistently provided U.S. negotiators with the flexibility to negotiate the best agreements possible in consultation with Congress; and

WHEREAS, exports are the lifeblood of American agriculture and TPA provides a great opportunity to expand agricultural trade; and

WHEREAS, TSCRA believes any health or sanitary restrictions should be substantiated with sound scientific justifications; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA opposes the negotiation of any other bilateral agreement that would be detrimental to U.S. beef producers; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that in lieu of bilateral agreements that can harm the U.S. beef industry, TSCRA favors international trade negotiations that are multilateral, for a more favorable global playing field for all importing and exporting countries alike; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA urges Congress to enable legislation ensuring continued availability of Trade Promotion Authority to the President; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that TSCRA urges Congress to ratify those completed trade agreements awaiting Congressional action; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that in order to find a solution to the European Union hormone ban dispute and to avoid any further such disputes, TSCRA places high priority on the sanitary and phyto-sanitary provisions of the World Trade Organization.

new 10/2/09, renewed 9/27/13, renewed 9/26/14

RECOMMENDATION: RENEW

**Farm Vehicle Distance Restriction
(MKT-16)**

WHEREAS, current federal and state motor vehicle laws restrict livestock and farm operators who are operating their farm equipment, not for hire and without a commercial driver's license, for transporting their livestock or farm products in excess of 150 miles; and

WHEREAS, this 150 mile restriction is very impractical, especially in times of drought and other emergency and disaster situations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA supports a change in federal and state motor vehicle laws to remove this 150 mile restriction.

new 6/18/10, renewed 9/26/14

RECOMMENDATION: RENEW

Agricultural Financing (MKT-22)

WHEREAS, cattle producers regularly buy and sell cattle and feedstuffs which are financed; and

WHEREAS, ensuring orderly financial transactions between buyer, seller, and lender of those products is crucial for the continuance of the beef industry; and

WHEREAS, agricultural liens secure payment or performance of a financial obligation on livestock, animal care or feeding costs; and

WHEREAS, agricultural lenders and borrowers rely on the statutory rights bestowed upon a secured party with a perfected lien; and

WHEREAS, Texas is currently a Direct Notice state relative to security interests in farm products, as outlined in Section 1324 of the Food Security Act of 1985, whereby a lender who wants its security interest to survive the sale of a farm product is required to send notice of security interest in the farm products to buyers and potential buyers of the farm products; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that TSCRA monitor and assess modifications to current financing practices and regulations and that any legislative or regulatory changes adhere to the following criteria:

- Promote the implementation and use of sound business practices by buyers, sellers and lenders.
- Require lenders and any other parties that extend credit to provide safe harbor or timely direct notice of a perfected lien to a purchaser.
- Financial liability, compliance costs and lien notification burdens of lenders and their borrowers should not be transferred to other industry participants.
- Liens should not be re-prioritized.
- Direct notice and lien perfection standards should be equally administered and specific production segments, borrowers or lenders should not receive preferential treatment over another.

new 9/29/17

RECOMMENDATION: RENEW AS AMENDED