



Department of  
Agriculture

John R. Kasich | Governor

David T. Daniels | Director

**Sunset Review Committee  
Testimony on the Advisory Committee on Livestock Exhibitions  
Deputy Director Janelle Mead  
November 30, 2015**

Good afternoon, Chairman Brown and members of the Sunset Review Committee. My name is Janelle Mead and I am a Deputy Director at the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on behalf of the Advisory Committee on Livestock Exhibitions. The Department of Agriculture is respectfully asking for re-authorization of the Advisory Committee on Livestock Exhibitions.

The Advisory Committee on Livestock Exhibitions was created in 1995 with the passage of the Ohio Livestock Show Reform Act. The Committee was tasked with re-emphasizing the educational purposes of junior livestock exhibitions after eight of eleven top prize winning animals at the 1994 Ohio State Fair tested positive for illegal substances. The efforts of the Committee are to propose rules and counsel the Director on all matters pertaining to livestock exhibitions in the state.

The Committee is comprised of 21 members: the Director of the Department, the State Veterinarian, 13 members representing commodity groups and other agricultural or educational organizations, three members representing county agricultural societies to be appointed by the Director, and no more than three additional at-large members appointed by the Director. The members serve three year terms, and meet once annually without compensation to review the previous exhibition season and to make recommendations to the Director. One staff member in the Division of Animal Health works roughly two to three hours to prepare for the annual meeting, which will usually last around two hours.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Advisory Committee on Livestock Exhibitions.