



Department of
Agriculture

John R. Kasich | Governor

David T. Daniels | Director

**Sunset Review Committee
Testimony on the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board
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 Livestock Care Standards Board. The Department of Agriculture is respectfully asking for re-authorization of the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board.

The Livestock Care Standards Board was established with the passage of State Issue 2 in November 2009. It is the mission of the Board to create comprehensive guidelines for governing the care and well-being of livestock in Ohio. The efforts of the Board focus on preventing both animal and human disease, and promote safe and affordable food by encouraging local food production.

The Board is comprised of 13 members: the Director of the Department, 2 family farmers appointed by the Speaker of the Ohio House and the President of the Ohio Senate, and 10 members from varying backgrounds appointed by the Governor. The members serve 3 year terms, and meet 3 times each year. Appointed Board members are not compensated, but are reimbursed for their mileage. In Fiscal Year '15, the total mileage reimbursement was \$869.83 for 3 board meetings.

Four field staff veterinarians and eight field staff inspectors from the Department's Animal Health Division are tasked with investigating complaints of possible violations of Livestock Care Standard rules. One administrator and one support staff position at the central office spend approximately 8 hours per year handling the administrative duties of the Board, with occasional assistance from the Department's Legal, Enforcement and Communications Divisions.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding Livestock Care Standards Board