

Livestock marketers ask end to stockyard funding

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congress was urged here Wednesday to heed the call of the American public for less government in their daily lives by deleting all funding for the stockyards provision of the Packers and Stockyards Act.

Livestock Marketing Association, a Kansas City-based trade group representing marketing businesses throughout the U.S. and in Canada, made the request in testimony before House and Senate Agriculture subcommittees on appropriations.

The testimony was offered in a joint statement of LMA President Lemmy Wilson, Livestock Laws Reform Commission Chairman J.D. Branscome, LMA General Manager C.T. 'Tad' Sanders, and LMA Executive Counsel Dennis R. Braddock.

LMA told the subcommittees that the livestock marketing industry participated last November in sending a message to Washington that the public wanted less government and less interference in their day-to-day lives.

By deleting funding of the stockyards section you will be

responding to that call, the statement said.

LMA's appearance was part of its overall campaign to reduce the regulatory burden currently imposed on the marketing sector.

The central element of this campaign is the Trade Group's Livestock Marketing Reform Act, which the statement noted will soon be introduced in both bodies of Congress.

This legislation would replace the stockyards provision of the P&S Act with modern law reflecting current marketing realities," the statement said.

LMA noted that the nature of the livestock industry has changed significantly in the 60 years since the P&S Act was passed. This is especially true in livestock marketing.

Today, the statement continued, the livestock marketing industry has developed into nearly 12,400 registered markets and dealers.

There is no longer a legal or factual monopoly in livestock marketing to justify the current degree of federal regulation in the industry.

After 60 years of rule making and amendment, the statement

said, livestock marketing businesses are now faced with a maze of federal regulations that are woefully out of step with the new technology, structural change, and vastly increased competition that has reshaped livestock production and marketing.

Consequently, federal rules under (the stockyards provision) of the Packers and Stockyards Act fail to serve the public good because they are outmoded and actually inhibit the development of more efficient methods of serving our customers and ultimately, the American consumer.

LMA also pointed out that currently livestock markets, dealers and brokers are restricted from operating related businesses, regardless of the need for that business in the community and regardless of (the individual's) own particular need to diversify in order to remain in business.

The Trade Group also told the subcommittee that additional tax dollars can be saved and burdensome federal regulation reduced by limiting the activities of the Office of General Counsel

with respect to the stockyards provision of the P&S Act."

The statement reminded the subcommittees that they have the power to strike the first blow in limiting the bureaucracy through the appropriations process. You are not constrained to provide continued funding for outmoded and needed federal regulation.

Livestock Marketing Association urges you to use that power objectively. If this is done, we are confident that you will agree with us that the money used to administer the stockyards provisions of the Packers and Stockyards Act could be and should be eliminated."

New Bolton Center to hold open house

KENNETT SQUARE — New Bolton Center, the large animal facility for the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine, will hold its annual Open House on Saturday, April 11, 1981 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Both the George D. Widener Hospital with its surgical facilities for large animals and the C. Mahlon Kline Center with its unique recovery pool will be on view to the public at this time.

Various special exhibits which reflect the Veterinary School's commitment to teaching, research and clinical care also will be on display for this occasion.

These include exhibits on preventative medicine and nutrition for large animals, poultry diseases, and a cow whose rumen liquor is used to treat digestive disorders in other cows.

In addition, several special demonstrations will highlight the day, such as, the proper way to bandage a horse's leg and corrective shoeing for lameness problems in the horse.

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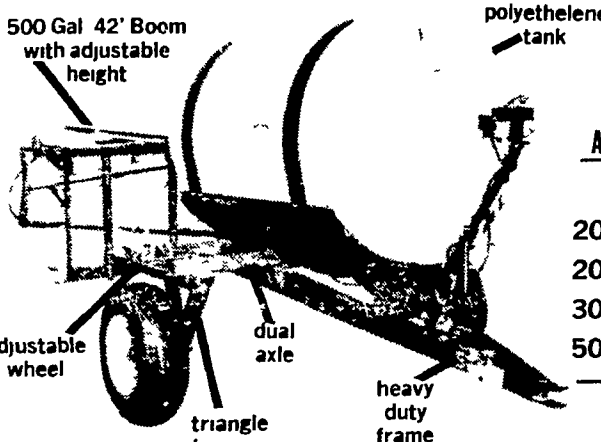
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