

# **Legislature - First Session - 2019**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB344**

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**Chairperson: Senator Steve Halloran**

**Committee: Agriculture**

**Date of Hearing: February 05, 2019**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 344 is brought at the request of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to strengthen and enhance the Department's legislative authority to protect the health of Nebraska's livestock. This bill will amend current provisions through the incorporation of necessary authorities from otherwise outdated animal disease-specific acts, such as bovine tuberculosis, pseudorabies, and brucellosis. This bill will repeal outdated disease-specific acts no longer supported by science or practices; harmonize provisions; update veterinary medical provisions; reduce duplication of provisions; and provide for the assessment of administrative fines for violators. This bill will meet the State of Nebraska's goal to be more efficient; reduce regulatory burden on the regulated; minimize duplication of provisions; and provide greater transparency and safety for Nebraska's livestock industry. The bill will expressly require the Department to follow, as far as practical, the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) animal disease control and eradication rules, regulations and guidelines; and to expressly provide for greater consistency between the Department's interstate movement requirements and those set forth by USDA.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

Senator Steve Halloran, Chairperson  
Agriculture Committee