

AMENDMENTS TO LB805

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM1976)

Introduced by Brandt, 32.

1           1. Insert the following new section:

2           Sec. 13. Section 54-1915.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,  
3 is amended to read:

4           54-1915.02 (1) The Independent Processor Assistance Program is  
5 created. The department shall administer the program contingent on funds  
6 being made available for such purpose.

7           (2) The purpose of the Independent Processor Assistance Program is  
8 to:

9           (a) Address supply chain disruptions caused by a public health  
10 emergency;

11           (b) Increase and improve livestock slaughter and meat processing  
12 capacity;

13           (c) Expand market access for small livestock producers; and

14           (d) Facilitate workforce development.

15           (3) In administering the Independent Processor Assistance Program,  
16 the department may develop policies and procedures for the disbursement  
17 of funds authorized by this section that include, at a minimum, the  
18 following:

19           (a) Applicant eligibility standards. At a minimum, such standards  
20 shall require that eligible applicants:

21           (i) Operate as a federally inspected, state-inspected, or custom-  
22 exempt slaughter and processing facility domiciled in Nebraska;

23           (ii) Demonstrate existing ~~sales revenue of less than two million~~  
24 ~~five hundred thousand dollars~~ and employment of fewer than fifty full-  
25 time equivalent ~~twenty-five~~ employees; and

26           (iii) Be registered in good standing with the Secretary of State to

1 do business in Nebraska; and

2 (b) Expense eligibility standards. At a minimum, such standards  
3 shall include:

4 (i) Capital improvements to expand capacity, including expansion and  
5 modifications to existing buildings or construction of new buildings at  
6 existing facilities;

7 (ii) Upgrades to utilities, including water, electric, heat,  
8 refrigeration, freezing, and waste facilities;

9 (iii) Livestock intake and storage equipment;

10 (iv) Processing and manufacturing equipment, including cutting  
11 equipment, mixers, grinders, sausage stuffers, smokers, curing equipment,  
12 pipes, motors, pumps, and valves;

13 (v) Packaging and handling equipment, including sealing, bagging,  
14 boxing, labeling, conveying, and product-moving equipment;

15 (vi) Warehouse equipment, including storage and curing racks;

16 (vii) Waste treatment and management equipment, including tanks,  
17 blowers, separators, dryers, digesters, and equipment that uses waste to  
18 produce energy, fuel, or industrial products;

19 (viii) Technology that allows increased capacity or business  
20 resilience, including software and hardware related to business  
21 functions, logistics, inventory management, plant production controls,  
22 temperature monitoring controls, and website design that enables e-  
23 commerce;

24 (ix) Rental of buildings, facilities, or equipment necessary to  
25 expand capacity, including mobile slaughter units and mobile  
26 refrigeration units used exclusively for meat or poultry processing;

27 (x) Costs associated with increased inspections or becoming  
28 inspected, including overtime inspection services by the Food Safety and  
29 Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and  
30 hazard analysis and critical control point consultation services; and

31 (xi) Educational and workforce training provided either by the

1 facility or by an institution of higher education.

2 (4) The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to  
3 carry out the purposes of the Independent Processor Assistance Program.

4 2. Renumber the remaining sections and correct the repealer  
5 accordingly.