

## CHAPTER 31A

### MEAT INSPECTION

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#### 31A.01 POLICY.

Meat, poultry, and meat food products are an important source of the nation's total supply of food. It is essential in the public interest that the health and welfare of consumers be protected by assuring that meat, poultry, and meat food products distributed to them are wholesome, unadulterated, and properly marked, labeled, and packaged. Unwholesome, adulterated, or misbranded meat, poultry, or meat food products injure the public welfare, destroy markets for wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged meat, poultry, and meat food products, and result in losses to livestock producers and processors of meat, poultry, and meat food products and injury to consumers. Unwholesome, adulterated, mislabeled, or deceptively packaged articles can be sold at lower prices and compete unfairly with wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged articles, to the detriment of consumers and the general public.

Regulation by the commissioner and cooperation between this state and the United States under this chapter are appropriate to protect the health and welfare of consumers and accomplish the purposes of this chapter:

**History:** 1999 c 231 s 58

#### 31A.02 DEFINITIONS.

*[For text of subs 1 and 2, see M.S.1998]*

Subd. 4. **Animals.** "Animals" means cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, farmed cervidae, as defined in section 17.451, subdivision 2, llamas, as defined in section 17.455, subdivision 2, ratitae, as defined in section 17.453, subdivision 3, horses, equines, and other large domesticated animals.

*[For text of subs 5 to 17, see M.S.1998]*

Subd. 17a. **Federal Poultry Inspection Act.** "Federal Poultry Inspection Act" means the Federal Poultry Products Inspection Act, as amended.

*[For text of subs 18 to 23, see M.S.1998]*

Subd. 24. **Poultry.** "Poultry" means any domesticated bird, including, but not limited to, chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, or guineas.

**History:** 1999 c 231 s 59-61

#### 31A.15 EXEMPTIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Inspection.** The provisions of sections 31A.01 to 31A.16 requiring inspection of the slaughter of animals and the preparation of the carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat, poultry, and meat food products at establishments conducting slaughter and preparation do not apply:

(1) to the processing by a person of the person's own animals and the owner's preparation and transportation in intrastate commerce of the carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat, poultry, and meat food products of those animals exclusively for use by the owner and members of the owner's household, nonpaying guests, and employees; or

(2) to the custom processing by a person of cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, or goats delivered by the owner for processing, and the preparation or transportation in intrastate commerce of the carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat, poultry, and meat food products of animals, exclusively for use in the household of the owner by the owner and members of the owner's

household, nonpaying guests, and employees. Meat from custom processing of cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, or goats must be identified and handled as required by the commissioner, during all phases of processing, chilling, cooling, freezing, preparation, storage, and transportation. The custom processor may not engage in the business of buying or selling carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat, poultry, or meat food products of animals usable as human food unless the carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat, poultry, or meat food products have been inspected and passed and are identified as inspected and passed by the Minnesota department of agriculture or the United States Department of Agriculture.

*[For text of subs 2 and 3, see M.S.1998]*

**History:** 1999 c 231 s 62

### 31A.21 COOPERATION WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Subdivision 1. **Designation.** The Minnesota department of agriculture is the state agency responsible for cooperating with the United States Secretary of Agriculture under section 301 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and of the Poultry Products Inspection Act to develop and administer the state meat inspection program under this chapter so that its requirements at least equal those imposed under titles I and IV of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and of the Poultry Products Inspection Act to develop and administer the state program under sections 31A.17 to 31A.20 to carry out the purposes of this chapter and the federal act.

*[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1998]*

Subd. 3. **Advice; consultation.** The Minnesota department of agriculture may recommend to the United States Secretary of Agriculture officials or employees of this state for appointment to the advisory committees provided for in section 301 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and of the Poultry Products Inspection Act. The Minnesota department of agriculture shall serve as the representative of the governor for consultation with the secretary under paragraph (c) of section 301 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and of the Poultry Products Inspection Act unless the governor selects another representative.

*[For text of subs 4 to 7, see M.S.1998]*

**History:** 1999 c 231 s 63,64

**31A.28** [Repealed, 1999 c 231 s 207]

### 31A.31 CITATION.

This chapter may be cited as the Minnesota Meat and Poultry Inspection Act.

**History:** 1999 c 231 s 65