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Comment from Anonymous

Posted by the **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service** on Jan 26, 2026

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Comment

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed animal disease traceability policy. Effective disease traceability is a critical component of protecting animal health, safeguarding the food supply, and maintaining public confidence in domestic and international livestock markets.

I support the goal of improving traceability to enable faster and more accurate responses to disease outbreaks. Timely access to reliable movement and identification data can significantly reduce the spread of disease, limit economic losses, and minimize the need for broad-based depopulation or movement restrictions. When implemented well, traceability systems can benefit producers, veterinarians, regulators, and consumers alike.

That said, successful implementation will depend on ensuring the policy is practical, cost-effective, and flexible enough to account for the diversity of production systems and operation sizes. Small and mid-sized producers, in particular, may face financial or technical challenges in adopting new identification or reporting requirements. I encourage the agency to provide clear guidance, reasonable compliance timelines, and accessible technical and financial support to avoid disproportionate impacts.

Data privacy and security are also important considerations. Producers must have confidence that their information will be protected, used only for legitimate animal health purposes, and not create unnecessary regulatory or competitive risks. Transparent standards for data access, storage, and use will be essential to building trust and encouraging compliance.

Finally, ongoing stakeholder engagement will be key. Continued collaboration with producers, industry groups, veterinarians, and state agencies can help refine the policy over time and ensure it remains effective as technology and industry practices evolve.

Give Feedback

Thank you for considering these comments and for your work to strengthen animal health and disease preparedness

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