

**47-674. Program for registering premises where animals located; voluntary premises registration and animal identification and tracking system; development and implementation by animal health commissioner.** (a) The animal health commissioner is authorized to cooperate with the United States department of agriculture, other state governmental officials, tribal officials and representatives of private industry, and subject to the provisions of subsection (d), to promulgate rules and regulations, to define premises where animals are located and to develop and implement a voluntary premises registration and animal identification and tracking system for Kansas.

(b) In the development of such system, the animal health commissioner shall ensure that:

- (1) The requirements are consistent with the federal program and with the United States animal identification plan;
- (2) the costs and paperwork requirements are minimized for the registrant and the state; and
- (3) the program is not duplicative of or in conflict with proposed federal requirements.

(c) The animal health commissioner is authorized to prepare for the implementation of a premises registration program for Kansas prior to implementation of a national animal identification or premises registration system. Such acts in preparation shall include, but not be limited to, public hearings, educational meetings, development of proposed rules and regulations and cooperative development with the department of agriculture of a proposal regarding infrastructure necessary for such implementation.

(d) If the United States department of agriculture issues proposed or final uniform methods and rules or regulations for the implementation of a voluntary national animal identification and tracking system or premises registration system, or the congress of the United States enacts requirements for a voluntary national animal identification and tracking system or premises registration system, the animal health commissioner is authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be reasonably necessary to implement voluntary premises registration and the national animal identification and tracking system to the extent authorized by federal requirements.

(e) Subject to appropriations therefor, the animal health commissioner is authorized to hire, in accordance with the civil service act, not more than two employees for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this section.

(f) The animal health commissioner is authorized to enter into agreements with federal agencies or officials, other state agencies or officials, tribal officials or the owner of animals or such owner's authorized agent to coordinate efforts and share records and data systems pursuant to law to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of this section.

(g) Any data or records provided or obtained pursuant to this section to an official of the Kansas department of agriculture division of animal health shall be considered confidential by the Kansas department of agriculture division of animal health and shall not be disclosed to the public. The provisions of subsection (b) of K.S.A. 45-229, and amendments thereto, shall not apply to the provisions of this subsection.

(h) Any federal financial aid or assistance, grants, gifts, bequests, money or aid of any kind for premises registration or animal identification and tracking in Kansas, shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the premises registration and animal identification fund, which fund is hereby created. All expenditures from such fund shall be made in accordance with appropriations acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the animal health commissioner or by a person designated by the animal health commissioner and shall be used solely for the administration of the voluntary premises registration or animal identification and tracking system.

(i) The animal health commissioner shall form study groups representing the various animal species to be affected by the provisions of this section. Each such study group shall include representatives for each such specie selected by the animal health commissioner and shall include assistance from the secretary of agriculture or the secretary's designees. Each such study group shall make recommendations to the animal health commissioner regarding the development of premises registration, animal identification and tracking for purposes of such systems, appropriations and fees necessary in administration of the program, enforcement provisions necessary in administration of the program and other issues related to the administration of the program.

**History:** L. 2004, ch. 116, § 1; L. 2005, ch. 165, § 4; L. 2012, ch. 140, § 79; July 1.