



Written Testimony

HB20-1211 Sunset Regulation Of Egg Dealers

Program Overview:

Egg Law protects Colorado consumers by ensuring egg quality and compliance with the washing, sanitizing, candling, grading, packing, and storage practices designated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) are followed.

The Colorado Egg Act protects local consumers by licensing and inspecting egg dealers. CDA inspects eggs on a local level to ensure that the eggs meet established USDA standards such as:

- Cleanliness
- Meeting label requirements regarding egg grades and size (Grade A, AA, size Medium, Large, Jumbo)
- Cracked or leaking eggs
- Blood spots
- Etc

The Colorado Egg Act serves Colorado egg producers by ensuring that egg production standards are followed and that Colorado eggs are wholesome. The Colorado Egg Act also serves Colorado consumers by ensuring that eggs sold in Colorado, regardless of where the eggs are produced, are properly refrigerated and meet the standards set forth by the State of Colorado and the United States Department of Agriculture.

CDA has around 2800 licensed egg dealers each year. These dealers range from small flock producers to convenience stores to small, medium, and large grocery stores and large volume dealers such as Costco, Sam's Club, and foodservice companies like US Foods and Nash Finch.

CDA issues egg dealer licenses to seven (7) classes depending on the monthly volume of eggs sold by the business

In Fiscal Year 2017 / 2018 the Department issued Stop Sale Orders for 1,946 dozen eggs. The majority of regulatory actions taken by the Colorado Department of Agriculture are Stop Sale Orders for non-compliance issues related to labeling, egg defects cracked, broken or leakers, etc., eggs inspected in the stores.

Summary of the Bill:

This bill will continue the regulation of eggs sold in Colorado through licensure and inspection of licensed egg producers and egg dealers which is important to continue to protect Colorado agriculture and Colorado consumers.

Department Position:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony. The Colorado Department of Agriculture asks for your support of HB20-1211 and urges a yes vote.