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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board Passes Vote on Civil Penalty Rules**

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Oct. 19, 2010) – The Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board today passed a vote on proposed civil penalty rules that will be used to enforce newly created livestock care standards. Proposed civil penalty rules will be filed with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) to begin the rule-making process.

The Ohio Department of Agriculture, under its regulatory authority, has the responsibility to enforce the livestock care standards the board puts in place. The civil penalty rules provide guidance for major and minor livestock care standard violations, and the civil penalties apply to each set of livestock care standards the board creates.

“The Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board is making strides in its endeavor to do what Ohioans have asked of it: to create livestock care standards and civil penalties that will protect not only Ohio’s livestock but also consumers, producers and the livelihood of the state’s number one industry—food and agriculture,” said Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Robert Boggs. “The proposed civil penalty rules created today will strengthen every livestock care standard this board creates.”

The proposed civil penalties for each livestock care standard will be based on major and minor violations of Ohio Administrative Code 901:12. A major violation may result in a civil penalty of \$1,000 up to \$5,000 for a first offense and \$5,000 up to \$10,000 for each subsequent offense. A minor violation may result in a civil penalty of up to \$500 for a first offense and up to \$1,000 for each subsequent offense. Major and minor violations will remain on record for five years.

The proposed civil penalty rules will be posted to the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board’s website and distributed through the E Notification System for comment. The proposed rules will be posted for a two-week period on the board’s website, and during this time, comments may be e-mailed to [Ecomments@agri.ohio.gov](mailto:Ecomments@agri.ohio.gov). The proposed civil penalty rules will then be filed with the JCARR to begin the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 119 administrative rule process. For more information about the JCARR process, visit [www.jcarr.state.oh.us/](http://www.jcarr.state.oh.us/).

The Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board is charged with establishing statewide standards governing the care and well-being of livestock while promoting food safety, preventing animal and human diseases and encouraging local food production.

For more information about the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board, visit [www.ohiolivestockcarestandardsboard.org](http://www.ohiolivestockcarestandardsboard.org).

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