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RE: Amendments to the Animal Care Regulation

Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) is Manitoba's general farm policy organization, providing a unified voice for farmers on issues that affect agriculture. KAP represents and promotes the interests of 4,400 farmers and 18 commodity associations.

There are thousands of livestock producers in Manitoba that raise and care for a variety of different animal species. The producers that raise these animals and the livestock markets and assembling stations that receive these animals are guided by the Animal Care Regulation. The *Regulation* sets out important parameters on the care and handling of livestock.

For years KAP has advocated to government on reducing red tape and removing regulations that are redundant or ineffective. The proposed amendments to the Animal Care Regulation – by striking out section 5.2 – reduces the redundancy within the *Regulation* and provides further clarity on the responsibilities of livestock markets and assembling stations. Other amendments to the *Regulation* provide updated guidelines related to euthanasia and the slaughter of animals.

KAP supports the proposed amendments to the Animal Care Regulation that will ensure the best practices of animal welfare are provided while reducing red tape.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Animal Care Regulation amendments. If you have any questions about this submission, please contact KAP Policy Manager, Neil Van Overloop, at neil.vanoverloop@kap.ca.

Sincerely,

Jill Verwey
President, Keystone Agricultural Producers Inc.