

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0511.01 Eden Rolland x2373

HOUSE BILL 26-1067

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McCormick and Winter T.,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Pelton B. and Roberts,

House Committees

Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING USING MONEY IN THE DISEASED LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY**
102 **FUND TO ADDRESS THREATS TO LIVESTOCK HEALTH.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Currently, money in the diseased livestock indemnity fund may be used only to pay indemnity to a livestock owner whose herd has been sold for slaughter or destroyed because the herd was exposed to or diagnosed with an infectious or contagious disease. The bill expands the permissible uses of the money in the diseased livestock indemnity fund by allowing the commissioner of agriculture to authorize using the money to prepare

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

for and respond to certain emerging threats to livestock health.

The bill renames the fund the "livestock health preparedness, response, and diseased livestock indemnity fund" (fund).

Money in the fund consists of the unexpended and unencumbered balance appropriated by the general assembly for the services of commissioned or appointed personnel in the animal health division of the Colorado department of agriculture. Civil penalties collected for violations of the "Livestock Health Act" are also credited to the fund. The bill preserves these statutory funding streams and does not alter the amount of money in the fund.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-50-114, **amend**
3 (3); and **add** (2.5) as follows:

4 **35-50-114. Indemnification of livestock owners - livestock**
5 **health preparedness, response, and diseased livestock indemnity**
6 **fund.**

7 (2.5) THE COMMISSIONER, UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
8 STATE VETERINARIAN, MAY AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT TO EXPEND
9 MONEY IN THE LIVESTOCK HEALTH PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND
10 DISEASED LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY FUND TO PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO:

11 (a) INFECTIOUS OR CONTAGIOUS DISEASES THAT POSE A THREAT TO
12 LIVESTOCK; AND

13 (b) BIOLOGICAL OR CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS OF ANIMALS THAT
14 POSE A THREAT TO LIVESTOCK.

15 (3) (a) There is created in the state treasury the LIVESTOCK
16 HEALTH PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND diseased livestock indemnity
17 fund. The unexpended and unencumbered balance of money appropriated
18 by the general assembly for payments for the services of commissioned
19 or appointed personnel pursuant to section 35-50-104 shall be credited to
20 the LIVESTOCK HEALTH PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND diseased livestock

1 indemnity fund, upon approval of the commissioner, at the end of each
2 fiscal year. The money in the fund is continuously appropriated for the
3 purpose of making payments as provided in this section.

4 ~~(b) (I) On June 30, 2025, the state treasurer shall transfer two~~
5 ~~hundred fifty thousand dollars from the diseased livestock indemnity fund~~
6 ~~to the general fund.~~

7 ~~(II) This subsection (3)(b) is repealed, effective July 1, 2026.~~

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-50-118, amend
9 (5) as follows:

10 **35-50-118. Civil penalties.**

11 (5) All penalties collected pursuant to this section shall be
12 ~~transmitted~~ CREDITED to the LIVESTOCK HEALTH PREPAREDNESS,
13 RESPONSE, AND diseased livestock indemnity fund created in section
14 35-50-114 (3).

15 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
16 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
17 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
18 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a
19 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
20 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
21 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
22 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
23 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
24 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.