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**Agriculture & Natural  
Resources Committee**

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**HB 2048**

**Brief Description:** Concerning a livestock identification program.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Schoesler, Linville, Holmquist, Grant and Sump.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Describes the purposes of a livestock identification program.

**Hearing Date:** 3/5/03

**Staff:** Kenneth Hirst (786-7105).

**Background:**

The following are among the fees authorized by statute for the state's livestock identification program: a brand inspection fee at mandatory inspection points of 60 cents/head for cattle and not more than \$2.40/head for horses; brand registration and renewal fees set by rule for two-year registration periods; and a fee of 12 cents/head for cattle handled through a certified feed lot. Self-inspection certificate forms are available from the Department of Agriculture. These forms are for the self-inspection of cattle or horses and are signed by the buyer and seller.

**Summary of Bill:**

The Legislature declares that an effective livestock identification program is essential for tracking, from source to consumer, livestock and products made from livestock to protect the public health and to thwart any attempted bioterrorism. Such a program is also essential for the owners of livestock for verifying ownership, for recovering stolen animals, and for prosecuting theft.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not Requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.