

# Animal Welfare: What the Feed Industry Needs to Know

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There is increasing public and consumer interest in where our food comes from and how it is grown, produced, processed and labeled. There are competing public policy tensions between agricultural and business interests compared to animal welfare interests.

Several state and federal statutes are applicable to animal welfare and trigger obligations and legal, business and public relations exposure to food producers. While some consider these statutory provisions to be outdated and difficult to enforce, they contain standards for measuring cruelty to animals that the feed industry needs to know.

- Minn. Stats. 343.20 - 343.36. Cruelty to animals.
- Minn. Stats. 346.35 - 346.44. Minnesota Pet and Companion Animal Welfare Act.
- Minnesota animal welfare rules and regulations. Minn. R. 1700.
- County and city codes and ordinances.
- U.S. animal welfare statutes, principally United States Animal Welfare Act, 7 USC 2132, et seq. See Sec. 2131, Congressional statement of policy.

Organizational policies, best practices and information gathering will strengthen the feed industry's ability to manage animal welfare issues.

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