

# Indiana Beef Cattle Association-IBCA

2019 Policy - Developed November 20, 2018

## 2019 AG POLICY

### **Commodity Checkoff Programs**

- A. IBCA supports the development of, and the continuation of National and State Commodity Checkoff Programs
- B. National Beef Checkoff Program IBCA supports the National Beef Promotion and Research Program (national beef check-off). This program must efficiently utilize producer investments, by assuring that the project grant process is driven solely by the quality of the science evidenced or the market pursued in the grant proposals, and not be determined by political or geographical concerns.
- C. Indiana Beef Checkoff IBCA supports the use of a state checkoff mechanism to raise funds necessary to meet recognized industry needs and supports initiating the creation of a state checkoff program at the current national beef checkoff rate.

### **Animal Welfare and Use Guidelines**

IBCA supports Indiana Board of Animal Health (BOAH) as the statewide authority to implement and oversee the regulations and guidelines concerning Farm Animal care and welfare.

### **Food Safety**

- A. IBCA continues to support food safety legislation, which requires the Food and Drug Administration to maintain a risk assessment procedure, and tolerance levels, which reasonably guides regulatory policy. Risk assessment and tolerance standards should continue to be based upon peer-reviewed and current scientific findings.
- B. IBCA encourages its local affiliates to participate in educational training programs to maintain food safety and cooperate with local health department officials.
- C. IBCA encourages increased communication between local health departments, the Indiana State Department of Health, and the State Fire Marshall's Office concerning non-for-profit food operations.

### **Expanded Beef Promotion and Marketing**

IBCA supports the development of a strong and visible beef promotion and marketing effort among the Indiana Beef Council, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Indiana's commodity groups and other State Beef Councils, in

1 partnership with retailers, foodservice operators, health groups, and other  
2 organizations.

### 3 4 **Animal ID and Traceability**

5 IBCA strongly supports a national traceability system in the U.S. that:

- 6 A. is built on private sector animal identification and verification programs backed  
7 by the USDA,
- 8 B. Fully meets the expectations of foreign governments and our customers  
9 overseas,
- 10 C. Is consistent with the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines,
- 11 D. Produces equivalent outcomes to the live animal tracking systems that  
12 importing countries have in place, and
- 13 E. BOAH will consistently interpret and implement the current animal ID policy.

### 14 15 **Exports/Imports**

- 16 A. IBCA supports Global Trade Partnerships that expand our U.S. beef markets.
- 17 B. Recognizes existing USDA programs for beef exports through the Market Access  
18 Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) Programs.
- 19 C. Strongly supports current funding levels of FMD and MAP to USMEF for the  
20 purposes of beef export promotion.
- 21 D. IBCA stands firmly opposed to importation of meat products from countries who  
22 do not have approved animal health status. This is not on the basis of trade  
23 but on the scientific basis of animal health concerns.
- 24 E. IBCA supports global trade initiatives for U.S. beef and cattle industries based  
25 on sound science.

### 26 27 **Government Regulations**

- 28 A. IBCA favors minimizing local, state and federal government involvement in  
29 agriculture, and other agriculture-related industries. The free enterprise  
30 system should be allowed to operate with the least possible interference.  
31 Whenever government programs are developed, the economic impact on the  
32 beef cattle industry as well as other agricultural industries should be  
33 considered.
- 34 B. IBCA understands the importance for research concerning air and water quality  
35 and encourages all decisions to be based on environmentally sound, science-  
36 based evidence.
- 37 C. IBCA favors complete repeal of the Waters of the United States proposal by the  
38 EPA and the Army Corp of Engineers.
- 39 D. IBCA supports the permanent exemption for livestock haulers from the ELD  
40 requirements.

### 41 42 **Right to Farm Law**

- 43 A. IBCA supports the Indiana right to farm and trespass laws in their current  
44 form.
- 45 B. IBCA opposes buffer zone laws that adversely affect animal agriculture.
- 46 C. IBCA supports reciprocating setbacks for residential homes in agricultural  
47 zones unless a deeded covenant is signed recognizing the right to farm  
48 provisions.

- 1 D. We support a Right to Farm Constitutional Amendment if the current Right to  
2 Farm Law is changed by the General Assembly.  
3

#### 4 **Fence Law**

- 5 A. IBCA supports the current Indiana fence law (as of July 1, 2018), except where  
6 forced access is imposed. The imposing party is responsible for fence  
7 establishment and upkeep. State and Federal agencies shall not be exempt  
8 from this law.  
9 B. IBCA supports legislation that requires property owned by the state, a political  
10 subdivision of the state, a city, or a town is not exempt from partition fence  
11 construction and maintenance claims.  
12

#### 13 **Indiana State Fairgrounds Campus**

- 14 A. IBCA supports the Indiana Farm Bureau resolution that the Indiana State Fair  
15 has been and should continue to be a showcase of Indiana agriculture.  
16 1. We encourage any changes in the law governing the state fair which would  
17 improve its ability to function.  
18 2. We support full funding of maintenance and improvements needed to use  
19 the fairgrounds year-round as a viable showcase for Indiana agriculture.  
20 3. We support and favor the complete retention of the current system of  
21 vesting the responsibility for overseeing the year-round operations of the  
22 Indiana State Fairgrounds to the state fair commission.  
23 4. We support the state fair board having the responsibility for planning,  
24 overseeing and conducting the annual state fair.  
25 5. The state fair board should consist of individuals who represent the state's  
26 agricultural community and should have specific knowledge of various  
27 commodities and activities showcased at the state fair.  
28 6. The administration of electing and appointing State Fair board members  
29 should follow state law guidance.  
30 7. IBCA encourages the Indiana State Fair and its partners to promote  
31 agriculture education and enhance the positive image of modern Indiana  
32 agriculture. Production agriculture leaders should be directly involved in  
33 all state fair policy making activities and exhibits.  
34 8. IBCA supports and encourages the continued renovations that enhance the  
35 promotion of Indiana Agriculture at the Indiana State Fairgrounds through  
36 funding support of the Indiana General Assembly.  
37 9. IBCA supports the Indiana State Fair Commission's continued development  
38 of the "State's Largest Classroom®".  
39 B. IBCA supports and encourages the improvement to infrastructure allowing for  
40 improved ingress and egress to the facility.  
41

#### 42 **Government Funded Food Programs**

- 43 A. IBCA supports government funded food programs that includes U.S. red meat as  
44 the primary source of protein.  
45 B. IBCA supports USDA's guidelines for including beef in all nutritional programs  
46 including "My Plate, My Health."  
47 C. IBCA supports the continued relationship between the Nutritional Assistance  
48 Program and the ag portions of the US Farm Bill.  
49 D. IBCA opposes any government program that supports a "meatless" day.

- 1 E. IBCA opposes government grants to businesses or organizations that promote  
2 false or misleading information about U.S. agriculture production methods.  
3

#### 4 **Industry Partnerships**

- 5 A. The IBCA encourages the creation of and participation in industry partnerships,  
6 by both IBCA and NCBA, when they advance organizational policies and  
7 program objectives.  
8 B. IBCA supports efforts to promote the maintenance and expansion of Indiana's  
9 livestock sector while improving relations between farm and non-farm  
10 communities.

#### 11 **Biotechnology**

- 12 A. IBCA supports the use of approved biotechnology and such technology use  
13 should be allowed and not prohibited by legislation, regulation or industry  
14 partner positions unless proven by scientific evidence to be harmful to the  
15 animal or end consumer.  
16 B. IBCA encourages the continued development and use of biotechnology that can  
17 improve safety, enhance efficiency, and increase productivity.  
18 C. IBCA strongly encourages that any new biotechnology product be tested and  
19 receive key international approvals before it enters the global marketplace.  
20 Once a product is approved by appropriate agencies, any problem that arises  
21 after its introduction that causes a reduction in value should be shared and is  
22 not the sole risk of the producer using that technology in good faith.  
23  
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#### 25 **Bioterrorism Defense**

- 26 A. IBCA encourages the state and federal governments to take all reasonable  
27 measures necessary to prevent acts of bio-terrorism from occurring in the  
28 United States and/or in North America and the global marketplace.  
29 B. IBCA encourages the establishment of a federal indemnity fund that would  
30 reimburse agricultural and allied industry losses incurred from acts of bio-  
31 terrorism.  
32 C. IBCA supports the establishment of a state-funded livestock indemnity program  
33 administered by the Board of Animal Health for animal agriculture in the event  
34 of a bio-terrorism attack on the industry.  
35

#### 36 **Structure of Agriculture in State Government**

- 37 A. IBCA supports the promotion of Indiana agriculture in general and beef  
38 production specifically as they are of significant economic importance to the  
39 state of Indiana.  
40 B. IBCA supports and encourages the continued open communications and  
41 cooperation with the Governor's office, Lt. Governor's office, Purdue  
42 University, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Board of Animal  
43 Health, Office of the State Chemist, IDEM, Animal Disease Diagnostic  
44 Laboratory, Agricultural Leadership Institute, and other agencies that influence  
45 agriculture.  
46 C. Support and encourage rural development through the office of the Lieutenant  
47 Governor to recognize and promote production agriculture in its broadest sense  
48 and not just the niche markets.

- 1 D. Utilize the state ag advisory board to assist in making decisions for the Indiana
- 2 State Department of Agriculture.
- 3 E. Encourage agriculture to be effectively and fairly represented in other
- 4 economic development entities and initiatives within state government.
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- 6

### 7 **Energy Legislation**

- 8 A. IBCA supports renewable energy resources and the development of their use as
- 9 alternative fuels in order to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. With
- 10 ethanol and bio-fuel production, the beef industry has access to co-product
- 11 feedstuffs. Research is necessary that is fact-based and science-driven that
- 12 allows the co-products to be used as animal feeds, that is cost effective for the
- 13 producer.
- 14 B. IBCA supports efforts and policies that promote and increase the usage of all
- 15 Indiana grown commodities, such as the ethanol blend levels used in the
- 16 Renewable Fuel Standards (RFS2).
- 17 C. IBCA supports other energy sources such as but not limited to bio-digesters,
- 18 solar and wind.
- 19

### 20 **Animal Fraud, Deception and Ethics**

- 21 A. IBCA recognizes the importance of animal well-being, good husbandry
- 22 practices, product safety, honesty, integrity and consumer confidence. We
- 23 therefore oppose all forms of fraud and deception in production as well as at
- 24 livestock shows, exhibitions and sales in Indiana. Some of these include
- 25 tampering, altering or misrepresenting an animal's identification, parentage,
- 26 breed purity, age or ownership. All laws pertaining to animal well-being,
- 27 fraud, ethics and deception should be enforced to their maximum extent.
- 28 B. IBCA supports the breed organizations' efforts to maintain breed purity and
- 29 integrity.
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### 31 **Immigration**

32 IBCA supports legal immigration and the use of only documented immigrants in the

33 workforce.

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### 36 **Grading and Certification of Meat Product**

- 37 A. IBCA supports the Indiana State Board of Animal Health in providing voluntary
- 38 grading and certification relating to meat and meat products.
- 39 B. IBCA supports the training of state inspectors to grade according to USDA
- 40 requirements.
- 41

### 42 **Ballot Initiatives**

43 IBCA supports Indiana's continuation as a non-ballot initiative state.

44

### 45 **Eminent Domain**

46 Property taken by eminent domain should be valued at the fair market value or post

47 project development value, whichever is greater. With the exception of public utility

48 rights-of-way, IBCA is opposed to using eminent domain to secure property for private

1 interests. Proceeds from the sale of property obtained through the process of eminent  
2 domain or threat of eminent domain should be exempt from taxes at the local, state  
3 and federal level.

4  
5 **Trespassing Laws**

6 IBCA opposes any change to the current legislation that would weaken the existing  
7 law.

8  
9 **Food Labeling**

- 10 A. IBCA wants to be involved in any discussion of defining natural, organic and  
11 other commodity niche marketing programs that label foods.  
12 B. IBCA supports both USDA and FDA jointly overseeing the production of cell-  
13 cultured food products derived from either animal or plant cells. We support  
14 the definition of “meat” to be only products derived from harvested livestock.

15

# ANIMAL HEALTH AND INSPECTION

## **Board of Animal Health (BOAH) Protocols and Standards**

IBCA strongly supports the written protocols for all programs under the jurisdiction of BOAH including but not limited to;

- A. Outbreak of infectious diseases
- B. Meat Inspection Services
- C. Animal Welfare

## **Tuberculosis Free**

- A. IBCA supports the state free status and depopulation of infected herds. Tuberculosis free status was established November 1, 1984 according to USDA, APHIS, uniform methods and rules. The Indiana code 15-2.1-3-13 approves the maintenance of a tuberculosis free state. Therefore, whenever the tuberculosis organism, Mycobacterium bovis, is identified in a herd of any species, including wildlife, every effort to prevent the spread of the organism would be made in conjunction with other appropriate agencies.
- B. IBCA supports the 50/50 cost sharing between local and state government to pay for required TB testing in areas where TB has been diagnosed.
- C. Be it further resolved, that IBCA encourages the monitoring of wildlife species for mycobacterium bovis with cooperation between DNR and BOAH.

## **Brucellosis Free**

The IBCA supports the present use of approved brucellosis calfhood vaccines and the testing of vaccinated breeding stock over 24 months of age and dairy type females over 20 months. The IBCA supports continued research towards improved brucellosis vaccines.

## **Brucellosis Indemnity Payment**

The IBCA supports indemnity payments with emphasis on commercial cattle with the funds available for such. Priority consideration should be given to Class A and free states.

## **Brucellosis Testing**

IBCA supports the general requirements and testing procedures for brucellosis in all other ruminant species as those in cattle. Therefore, licensed and accredited veterinarians or veterinarians employed by the state or federal government shall do all brucellosis testing. In addition, whenever brucellosis is present, the animals shall be depopulated, or other options should be implemented to control the spread of brucellosis.

## **Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) or Other Regional Laboratories**

- A. Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) Funding-Due to the increased surveillance for animal diseases, IBCA encourages funding that will support the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory in order to insure the safety and wholesomeness of the food supply. User Fees should not be levied in instances

- 1 where they fund programs that are mandated for area and national disease  
2 control.
- 3 B. Biosecurity Level 3 Laboratory-IBCA supports the establishment and funding of  
4 a biosecurity level 3 (BSL3) laboratory at Purdue University.
- 5 C. Certified National/Regional Disease Laboratories-IBCA supports the  
6 development of additional national/regional laboratories that are qualified  
7 and certified to run tests for foreign animal diseases.

### 8 **Inspection of Foreign Beef**

- 9
- 10 A. IBCA strongly supports uniform enforcement of meat inspection standards equal  
11 to U.S. standards for any country selling beef to the United States. Imported  
12 beef should be subjected to the same drug and chemical restrictions as  
13 domestically produced beef and labeled as imported.
- 14 B. IBCA strongly opposes the importation of fresh or frozen beef from countries or  
15 areas that have recent history of communicable foreign animal diseases, such  
16 as Foot and Mouth disease (FMD).

### 17 **Animal Identification**

- 18
- 19 A. IBCA encourages mandatory identification of cattle of all ages, with  
20 standardized electronic identification (i.e. RFID 840 tags), so as to carry all  
21 pertinent information for trace-back and capturing value-added opportunities.
- 22 B. IBCA will actively support the Indiana component of the U.S. Animal  
23 Identification Program, including premise identification, which maximizes  
24 disease trace-back, food safety, and end product information flow while  
25 optimizing total benefit to producers. The information collected through this  
26 system shall protect privacy rights.
- 27 C. IBCA would encourage compensation for federally mandated requirements of  
28 individual electronic animal identification including reading equipment for  
29 livestock markets.
- 30 D. IBCA supports the Indiana Livestock Theft Alert program and encourages  
31 Indiana cattlemen to permanently (i.e. tattoos and brands) identify their  
32 animals.
- 33 E. IBCA strongly encourages permanent identification of cattle of all ages,  
34 originating from domestic or foreign sources. Cattle from other countries must  
35 retain their country of origin tags.
- 36 F. IBCA supports the brand registry program in Indiana.

### 37 **Indiana State Board of Animal Health**

- 38
- 39 A. IBCA strongly supports a continued increase of funding and adequate staffing of  
40 the Board of Animal Health to adequately carry out its responsibilities to the  
41 producers, industry and consumers.
- 42 B. IBCA supports the use of electronic Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI's  
43 or Health Papers) by BOAH to enhance speed of commerce and animal  
44 traceability.

### 45 **Importation of Mexican Cattle**

46 Be it resolved that the IBCA urges stricter enforcement of tuberculosis (TB)  
47 requirements for the entry of cattle from Mexico. This includes support of United  
48 States Animal Health Association recommendations on branding animals entering the  
49

1 U.S. by establishing criteria for Mexican cattle to qualify under current U.S. TB import  
2 requirements. Criteria would be based on incentives to encourage adoption and  
3 implementation of TB eradication programs in other Mexican states using the program.  
4 TB programs in Mexico should be conducted under the same standard regulations as in  
5 the United States.  
6

### 7 **Animal Welfare Standards**

- 8 A. IBCA encourages Indiana cattle producers to continue the high standards of  
9 animal welfare currently practiced in our industry. IBCA will cooperate with  
10 other Indiana agricultural organizations to develop programs that assure that  
11 these welfare standards remain at the highest possible levels throughout  
12 animal agriculture.
- 13 B. IBCA supports Indiana BOAH as the statewide authority to implement and  
14 oversee the regulations and guidelines concerning Farm Animal care and  
15 welfare.
- 16 C. In addition, IBCA endorses the following criteria for handling non-ambulatory  
17 livestock:
- 18 1. Producers shall not transport non-ambulatory or severely ocular  
19 neoplastic (cancer eye) livestock to market facilities and IBCA  
20 encourages livestock markets to refuse to accept these animals.
  - 21 2. Animals that are disabled during transportation shall be humanely  
22 euthanized, according to AVMA standards or the Humane Slaughter Act.
  - 23 3. Employees of livestock operations, markets and processing facilities  
24 shall be instructed in the humane handling of all livestock in a  
25 collaborative effort between Purdue Extension, BOAH, IBCA, and the  
26 Livestock Marketing Association (LMA).
  - 27 4. Livestock that are sick or injured and unresponsive to medical  
28 treatment for a reasonable period of convalescence shall be humanely  
29 euthanized on the farm and disposed of in accordance with federal,  
30 state and local regulations or the Humane Slaughter Act.
- 31 D. IBCA supports the rearing of animals housed in confinement utilizing the  
32 industry's best recognized management practices and scientific research.  
33

### 34 **State Meat Inspection Services**

35 Indiana consumers and the Indiana cattle industry have long benefited from the public  
36 food safety assurance resulting from the dedicated, ongoing daily supervision of the  
37 Indiana State Meat Inspection Service.

38 A. IBCA supports the continuation of this critical state food safety assurance  
39 program. Meat Inspection funding should be re-instated at the level prior to  
40 budget cuts incurred in 2010. At a minimum, the program budget must be  
41 maintained at 2010 levels through the state budget with the possibility of  
42 additional funding shortfalls being supplemented by user fees on non-custom  
43 exempt carcasses.

44 B. IBCA supports the federal rule which allows interstate shipment of state  
45 inspected meat and meat products. Since state inspected packing plants are  
46 required to meet federal HACCP regulations, meat inspected under state programs  
47 should be accorded the same freedom of movement in interstate commerce as is  
48 accorded meat imported into the United States from foreign countries.

- 1 C. IBCA endorses legal actions against USDA and/or FDA to ensure inspection
- 2 equity between red meats, poultry, and seafood.
- 3 D. IBCA supports the Indiana State Board of Animal Health in providing voluntary
- 4 grading and certification relating to meat and meat products.
- 5 E. IBCA supports the training of state inspectors for the USDA requirements
- 6

### 7 **Judicious Use of Antibiotics in Livestock Production**

8 IBCA supports the NCBA policy on the judicious and scientific use of antibiotics in  
9 livestock production and encourages a valid Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship  
10 (VCPR) between producers and their veterinarian.

### 11 **Animal Seizure**

12 IBCA supports the current policy by BOAH (as of July 1, 2015) in assessing the neglect  
13 of an animal or animals. Neglect cases will be reviewed by a BOAH veterinarian for  
14 the species under question before animals can be seized by proper authorities.

### 15 **Animal Disease Monitoring and Eradication**

- 16 A. IBCA supports the pseudorabies eradication program in Indiana and the
- 17 continued monitoring of the free status.
- 18 B. IBCA supports the continued monitoring of diseases of feral swine.
- 19 C. IBCA supports the continued monitoring of foreign animal diseases of swine,
- 20 such as African Swine Fever (ASF), Classical Swine Fever (CFF), and Foot and
- 21 Mouth Disease (FMD).
- 22 D. IBCA supports the Indiana State Board of Animal Health in their process of
- 23 identifying the location of cervid herds, and supports the individual, approved
- 24 identification of all cervid animals, and the controlled movement of these
- 25 animals in order to take necessary measures to prevent the spread of TB,
- 26 Brucellosis, Chronic Wasting Disease, and any other regulated cattle disease, to
- 27 Indiana's cattle industry.
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- 31 E. IBCA encourages the involvement of the Indiana Board of Animal Health,
- 32 Purdue University Animal Sciences Department and the Purdue University
- 33 College of Veterinary Medicine and related organizations in the study and
- 34 regulation of Johne's Disease (Paratuberculosis) in livestock. IBCA encourages:
  - 35 1. A testing program for adult cattle prior to change of ownership and
  - 36 testing of Dams of animals less than two years of age;
  - 37 2. A continued educational program to create awareness of the disease;
  - 38 3. IBCA supports funding for the Johne's Disease Testing Program, as well
  - 39 as funding for a risk assessment management plan. In lieu of a decrease
  - 40 in federal funding, the IBCA encourages state funding to meet the
  - 41 balance of BOAH's budget for Indiana's Voluntary Johne's Disease
  - 42 Program not met by the federal cooperative agreement. IBCA supports
  - 43 adequate funding of the Johne's Program.

- 1                   4. Animals testing positive on a fecal culture or PCR test need to be  
2                   officially identified and shipped directly to slaughter according to BOAH  
3                   guidelines.  
4

### 5 **Beef Quality Assurance**

- 6       A. IBCA encourages the cooperation between the Indiana Board of Animal Health,  
7       Purdue University Animal Sciences Department, Purdue University College of  
8       Veterinary Medicine, veterinarians, IBCA, local beef associations, livestock and  
9       feed dealers and those who market animal health products to disseminate Beef  
10      Quality Assurance (BQA) information and ongoing training  
11      B. IBCA recommends those involved in beef production use animal health products  
12      according to manufacturers recommended dosage and route of administration,  
13      and that those involved with beef production *must* follow manufacturers  
14      approved slaughter withdrawal times.  
15      C. Specifically, IBCA recommends the following actions including but not limited  
16      to:  
17          1. Encourages all Indiana cattle producers (beef and dairy) to become BQA  
18          certified (or equivalent program) and practice certification guidelines.  
19          2. Adoption of permanent identification systems which are essential for  
20          evaluation of health, marketing, and carcass quality.  
21          3. IBCA supports the development of value-added market opportunities for  
22          the Indiana beef producers.  
23          4. IBCA supports the National Beef Quality Assurance program.  
24

### 25 **Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)**

- 26      A. IBCA recognizes and applauds the protective measures taken by our State and  
27      Federal governments to protect our livestock and human population from  
28      Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) caused by altered prions.  
29      IBCA supports continued funding to provide surveillance and research of and for  
30      these diseases, especially Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy.  
31      B. All imported cattle need to be held to U.S.-equivalent standards for feedstuffs  
32      in order to build a firewall of protection from Bovine Spongiform  
33      Encephalopathy. Therefore, we oppose the importation of any ruminant  
34      animals that have been fed ruminant-derived proteins.  
35      C. IBCA emphasizes that all decision-making processes concerning BSE be based on  
36      scientific evidence.  
37      D. IBCA supports a national study of the impact of BSE monitoring and surveillance  
38      on the rendering industry and the potential value, use and consequence of  
39      handling by-products.  
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### 41 **BVD Testing**

42 IBCA supports the development of a state/national bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) testing  
43 program. IBCA also encourages the commonly accepted removal of persistently  
44 Infected (PI) BVD animals and the continued education of the beef cattle industry in  
45 proposed management practices. IBCA also encourages research and testing for BVD.  
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**Trichomoniasis Testing**

IBCA encourages BOAH to implement a Trichomoniasis test requirement in non-virgin bulls imported into Indiana. Testing can be done by ADDL at Purdue University.

**Humane Horse Slaughter**

IBCA supports legislation and funding to allow for the USDA Inspected slaughter of horses in the United States. IBCA supports the proposed legislation to allow the movement of horses for slaughter in the United States.

**Mortality Management**

- A. IBCA supports BOAH’s current rules and regulations concerning carcass disposal and supports BOAH as the sole governing authority over carcass disposal.
- B. IBCA supports producer management of run-off potential from carcass disposal sites.

# MARKETING

## **Value-Based Marketing**

IBCA recommends that NCBA take or maintain the following action:

- A. Support value-based marketing and the uniform application and administration of classification standards for any system used by the industry. The system should maximize objectivity, as well as accurately identify and compensate producers based on true carcass value.
- B. IBCA Supports the collection of information to develop and implement a system that will allow all segments of the industry to share information on age & source verification from birth, production practices, carcass data and product quality; and provide feedback to the producer.
- C. IBCA Supports advertising and promotion of beef's safety and wholesomeness to regulatory bodies, consumers, producers and opinion leaders at all levels.
- D. IBCA supports implementation of a carcass grading system, if determined feasible, as a way to add value to Indiana's beef producers.

## **Fair Trade and Foreign Marketing**

IBCA supports cooperation between state and federal agencies to expand foreign markets. This should include:

- A. Fair and equitable multilateral trade agreements that are reciprocal in nature with foreign nations.
- B. Increasing and expanding meat and meat product marketing opportunities that can be created within and through NAFTA, CAFTA, WTO and other similar trade agreements and meeting the same high standards for meat quality, purity and safety as those required for U.S. consumers.
- C. Maintaining Trade Promotion Authority.
- D. Developing a system to assure prompt compliance to World Trade Organization rulings.
- E. Imported beef shall meet the same high standards for meat quality, purity, and safety as U.S. beef. All safeguard measures should be imposed on foreign live animals and avians, carcasses, meat products, and their by-products to ensure that foreign animal diseases do not enter our domestic meat supply.
- F. Use of science-based justification for decisions affecting foreign trade policy and tariffs within the global marketplace.
- G. Standing firmly against trade barriers on U.S. beef.
- H. An aggressive national effort to reestablish and pursue new international trade markets and free trade agreements.

## **Export Promotion and Marketing**

- A. IBCA supports increased financial investment by NCBA, the Beef Checkoff, and USMEF to strengthen and expand export marketing programs.
- B. IBCA supports cooperative efforts with state governmental agencies to foster sales of Indiana goods and services.

1 **Indiana Beef Industry Development**

- 2 A. IBCA supports Indiana beef industry development efforts that would improve  
3 the region's competitive industry position by more effectively organizing and  
4 utilizing the region's resources.
- 5 B. IBCA will pursue opportunities to work with any local, state and federal  
6 economic development group to explore the possibility of strengthening and  
7 expanding the infrastructure of the beef industry. This includes, but is not  
8 limited to:
- 9 1. Exploring the possibility to enhance the viability of all packing and  
10 processing plants within the state to enhance producer profitability.
  - 11 2. Identify sources of capital that support cattle profit partnerships.
  - 12 3. Supporting the enhancement and development of new methods to  
13 communicate the reputation, needs and availability of feeder and fed  
14 cattle.
  - 15 4. IBCA supports the coordination of efforts that will more efficiently bring  
16 buyers and sellers together. We support the expansion of livestock  
17 market reporting within the state.
  - 18 5. Support development of USDA feeder calf grading system and  
19 encouraging weekly and special sales.
  - 20 6. Continue support of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA)  
21 INDIANA GROWN agri-based program promoting Indiana agriculture  
22 products.
  - 23 7. Identifying and supporting alliances and partnerships that will enhance  
24 producer profitability. These alliances and partnerships will include,  
25 but not be limited to, checkoff funds for corn and soybeans and the  
26 Indiana State Fair.
  - 27 8. IBCA supports the continuation and expansion of direct marketed  
28 Indiana beef.
- 29 C. IBCA supports the development of an infrastructure that will allow a small to  
30 mid-size Indiana beef producer to effectively and efficiently use the by-  
31 products from by-product plants.
- 32 D. IBCA supports re-instatement and expansion of meat inspection funding;
- 33 1. To support not only traditional markets, but also direct sales of  
34 locally grown freezer beef and farmer's markets.
  - 35 2. To make the infrastructure equitable between livestock and deer  
36 product requirements available to food pantries.
- 37 E. IBCA will facilitate and strongly encourage participation in the National BQA  
38 Program to enhance the consumer's perception of the industry.
- 39 F. IBCA supports sustainability efforts that are science-based and led by grassroot  
40 producer efforts.

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43 **Beef Ventures Group, LLC**

44 IBCA continues the support of, and partnership with the Beef Ventures Group, LLC in  
45 evaluating the feasibility of economic development projects that benefit Indiana's  
46 beef industry and working to privatize viable projects.

1 **Product Development and Labeling**

2 IBCA supports and encourages the continued development of:

- 3 A. New consumer-friendly, convenience products that will lead to greater beef  
4 demand.
- 5 B. Uniform labeling of beef products to enhance consumer knowledge of nutritional  
6 value, environmental stewardship, and convenience.
- 7 C. Public policy that supports voluntary, industry driven Country of Origin Labeling  
8 (COOL) that allows maximum benefits and minimal market disruption. We do  
9 not support mandatory COOL. Additionally, IBCA supports COOL laws that are  
10 in compliance with World Trade Organization (WTO) ruling.
- 11 D. IBCA supports NCBA key principles of food safety, labeling, manufacturing, and  
12 inspection of plant-based and lab-grown imitation meat products.
- 13

14 **Antitrust Law Enforcement**

15 IBCA requests the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and USDA enforce current antitrust  
16 laws as prescribed in the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921.

- 17 A. To facilitate these actions, it must be recognized that the Grain Inspection,  
18 Packers and Stockyards Agency (GIPSA) functions as a regulatory body  
19 within AMS. IBCA further requests that GIPSA's powers be consistent with  
20 free-market principles.
- 21 B. IBCA supports the continuation of the free market agreements and  
22 alliances between producers and packers.
- 23 C. IBCA urges NCBA to position itself to protect the cattle industry from  
24 being monopolized.
- 25 D. IBCA urges NCBA to pursue efforts to prevent manipulation of price  
26 and encourage value discovery.
- 27

28 **Marketing of Cattle**

29 IBCA is opposed to political solutions (including, but not limited to controls on packer  
30 ownership) that would restrict the free-flow of cattle into the beef processing market.  
31 IBCA supports free and open markets with minimal government interventions.

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# RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

## Extension

- A. IBCA recognizes that the economic well-being of Indiana Agriculture is positively influenced by the applied research and educational efforts of Purdue Cooperative Extension.
- B. IBCA supports funding that will improve those essential services which impact Indiana beef producers at the state and local level. We continue to encourage producers and Extension personnel to engage in economic development and technology transfer to the beef cattle industry.
- C. IBCA continues to encourage cooperation and communication between Purdue Cooperative Extension and the beef industry to develop consistent policies, regulations and programs for both adults and youth.
- D. IBCA continues to encourage cooperation between Purdue Cooperative Extension, producers, local beef affiliates, NCBA, and other allied industries to conduct applied research projects.
- E. IBCA supports Purdue Cooperative Extension's efforts in assisting product marketing, pursuing value-added opportunities, managing costs of production and enhancing resource utilization for all producers.
- F. IBCA supports the increased awareness of animal health, biosecurity and foreign animal diseases.
- G. IBCA encourages the continued development of new outreach and educational and promotional programs and other workshops and beef industry related events.
- H. IBCA encourages Purdue Cooperative Extension to support livestock expansion as part of their role in economic development.

## Research and Education

- A. IBCA supports a comprehensive research agenda and encourages funding initiatives from local, state and national levels. It is of paramount importance that adequate funding be provided and used to improve animal production efficiency, profitability, consumer demand and consumer education.
- B. IBCA recognizes it is imperative that all of the Purdue University research units be utilized at their optimal capacity with adequate staff and funding to serve the changing needs of the Indiana beef cattle and other agricultural industries.
- C. IBCA will actively engage the universities and colleges in Indiana, producers, other commodity groups and allied industries, to support:
  1. Faculty staffing to conduct research, teaching, and extension activities in all areas of beef production.
  2. Appropriate renovation of research facilities at the Purdue Animal Science Research and Education Center.
- D. Research updates should be provided to the beef industry utilizing IBCA communication vehicles, as well as other communication channels.
- E. IBCA encourages ISDA, USDA, Congress, and private entities to provide necessary financial support for base funding and competitive grants that provide for systems-based research and educational programs.
- F. Research priorities include, but are not limited to:

- 1 1. Increasing efficiency of beef production, through relevant basic and applied  
2 research, that will enhance the understanding of mechanisms that control  
3 and regulate:
  - 4 a. Product quality and consumer acceptance of beef products
  - 5 b. Nutrient utilization while conserving natural resources
  - 6 c. Reproductive efficiency
  - 7 d. Muscle and adipose growth
  - 8 e. Disease control and resistance, immunity and genetic markers
  - 9 f. Enhancing both pre-harvest and post-harvest food safety, nutritional  
10 quality and acceptability of animal products by:
    - 11 1. Evaluating the quality and wholesomeness of beef products;
    - 12 2. Understanding the importance of beef's nutritional role in a  
13 healthy human diet;
    - 14 3. Developing and utilizing new technologies to improve animal  
15 products;
    - 16 4. Providing communication to consumers, media and foodservice  
17 groups about the importance of proper food safety, cooking and  
18 handling techniques, as well as the nutritional value of beef  
19 products.
    - 20 5. Developing and utilizing new technologies that will continually  
21 enhance the safety of our beef products such as irradiation of  
22 ground product, or other potential intervention strategies.
- 23 2. Development of nutrient management systems that are economically viable  
24 and environmentally sound. Encourage Purdue University to enhance  
25 research and extension programs that evaluate innovative alternative  
26 production practices that include but are not limited to sustainability and  
27 cover crop utilization.
- 28 3. Development of systems to enhance the efficiency and competitiveness of  
29 Indiana's beef production. Such as:
  - 30 a. Support the use of electronic animal identification for trace-back  
31 and information sharing.
  - 32 b. Pursue development of profit partnerships within and between the  
33 beef industry and consumer groups.
- 34 4. IBCA supports research and education in animal handling, housing,  
35 sustainability and well-being of all livestock species.
- 36 5. IBCA supports funding for research and education efforts dealing with co-  
37 products from industry.
- 38 G. IBCA supports the coordination and consistency of research, teaching and  
39 Extension between Ivy Tech Community College, Vincennes University,  
40 Huntington University, Grace College, Purdue Global, and Purdue University  
41 agricultural educational programs.
- 42 H. IBCA strongly encourages the development of a funding mechanism for relevant  
43 production and applied research to support Indiana's beef producers, to include,  
44 but not limited to a state checkoff program.

45  
46 **Purdue College of Veterinary Medicine**

- 47 A. IBCA recommends adequate staffing to ensure the continuation of broad-based  
48 curriculum including zoonotic diseases being offered by the College of  
49 Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University. The goal should be to adequately

- 1 prepare practitioners of food animal medicine to provide for the health and  
2 well-being of food animals in Indiana, especially cattle.
- 3 B. IBCA supports the increase in acceptance of Indiana resident students into the  
4 College of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University to support the increase in  
5 talent pool serving the Indiana Livestock Industries.
- 6 C. IBCA supports the work of the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA)  
7 Large Animal Task Force and encourages actions to be taken to increase the  
8 number of food animal veterinarians and veterinary technicians (nurses) serving  
9 animal agriculture and fund financial incentives to entice those veterinarians  
10 interested in large animal practices to stay within the state.
- 11 D. IBCA supports the funding for a new large animal veterinary clinic facility.
- 12 E. IBCA Supports an Extension veterinary emphasis to serve the beef industry in  
13 Indiana.
- 14

### 15 Leadership Development

- 16 A. Indiana Young Cattlemen (IYC)  
17 IBCA supports and applauds the Indiana Young Cattlemen and recognizes its  
18 members as leaders of the beef industry.
- 19 B. Indiana Junior Beef Cattle Association (IJBCA)  
20 IBCA supports and applauds the IJBCA and recognizes its members as the future  
21 leaders of the beef industry.
- 22

### 23 Youth Development and Competition

24 IBCA supports:

- 25 1. Programs to develop life skills for all youth;
  - 26 2. The use of competition as part of the youth experience to teach them  
27 how to deal with success and failure;
  - 28 3. Adult and parental supervision and participation in the development and  
29 understanding of these life skills among our youth;
  - 30 4. Ethical and legal practices within this competition to insure a safe and  
31 wholesome product for the consumer and well-being of the animal;
  - 32 5. Opportunities for youth to promote beef and its by-products through the  
33 use of facilities within Indiana.
  - 34 6. The continuation and expansion of IJBCA's Indiana's Finest.
  - 35 7. The continuation and recruitment of National, State and Regional beef  
36 shows in Indiana that are sponsored by breed and other associations.
  - 37 8. Strong encouragement for all beef exhibitors to complete Beef Quality  
38 Assurance training.
  - 39 9. IBCA supports 4-H, FFA and the livestock industries involvement in the  
40 Indiana State Fair.
- 41

### 42 Beef Improvement Programs

43 IBCA encourages the continued partnership with Purdue Extension, the Purdue Animal  
44 Science Department and College of Veterinary Medicine to participate in Indiana beef  
45 improvement programs and the Beef Improvement Federation.

- 46 A. *Indiana Beef Evaluation Program (IBEP)* - IBCA encourages seedstock producers  
47 to participate in the bull test program and encourages commercial cattlemen  
48 to support this program. IBCA also encourages the use of expanded marketing  
49 opportunities.

- 1 B. *Integrated Resource Management (IRM)/Standardized Performance Analysis*  
2 (*SPA*) - IBCA supports the IRM/SPA program and encourages producer  
3 participation.
- 4 C. *Indiana Beef Evaluation and Economics Feeding (IBEEF) Program*. IBCA strongly  
5 encourages producers to participate in this feedout program to improve carcass  
6 quality, manage economic returns, identify marketing opportunities and  
7 enhance the reputation of Indiana beef cattle.
- 8 D. IBCA encourages the continued development and adoption of the national Beef  
9 Quality Assurance program and producer participation to enhance the  
10 reputation and marketability of their cattle.

## 11 **Funding for Purdue Extension and Research**

12 IBCA supports an increase in federal, state and local funding for Purdue Extension and  
13 Research programs and the staff necessary to carry out the programs.

## 14 **Assessment of Beef Industry Needs**

- 15 A. IBCA should work with Purdue Animal Sciences Department, Purdue Extension,  
16 College of Veterinary Medicine, allied industry, ISDA, BOAH, and other livestock  
17 organizations to conduct a needs assessment to identify opportunities and  
18 threats, programs and staff, to support the future of Indiana's beef industry.
- 19 B. IBCA recognizes the need to recruit Indiana youth to Purdue and other Indiana  
20 schools and then retain them in the livestock and allied industries within the  
21 state.
- 22 C. IBCA will take a proactive role in the development of strategic plans for Purdue  
23 University, the College of Agriculture, the College of Veterinary Medicine, and  
24 other colleges and departments pertinent to agriculture and the beef industry.

## 25 **Education Funding**

26 IBCA strongly supports continued state and local funding for agriculture and food  
27 science education in all school curriculums including, but not limited to, vocational  
28 agriculture and Family and Consumer Science programs.

## 29 **Animal Welfare**

30 IBCA encourages its members to take a proactive role in educating producers, allied  
31 industry, local consumers and public officials as to the legal obligations, jurisdictions  
32 and expectations afforded under current regulations affecting animal treatment and  
33 possible seizure of neglected animals. IBCA supports continued research into animal  
34 management and well-being. IBCA also supports BOAH's Animal Care and Use  
35 Guidelines, as well as national BQA guidelines.

## 36 **State Grant Funding**

37 IBCA strongly encourages increased state funding for promotion, market development,  
38 and value-added projects through opportunities such as, but not limited to, the  
39 Indiana Livestock Development Grants, Value-Added Grant Fund and Indiana Livestock  
40 Promotion Fund to enable Indiana's beef industry to pursue innovative opportunities.

1 **Public and Private Property Demonstrators**

2 IBCA supports the efforts of commodity groups, Purdue Extension, and allied industry  
3 groups in creating a standard operating procedure that addresses how protestors and  
4 demonstrators will be handled. IBCA also supports providing these guidelines to all  
5 counties, IBCA affiliates and private farms.

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# TAX AND FINANCE

## **Property Taxes**

IBCA supports the elimination of real estate and personal property taxes in lieu of more fair and equitable taxation.

In lieu of elimination of real estate and person property taxes, the IBCA supports the following:

- A. IBCA supports removal of the debt service and county welfare from property tax revenues.
- B. IBCA believes that revenues lost through this reform can best be replaced by sales tax and/or state personal income tax.
- C. The IBCA supports sales tax as the first option while maintaining the present agricultural exemptions.
- D. Additionally, any modifications brought to property tax should emphasize fairness, predictability, administrative efficiency, enhance the economic competitiveness of Indiana, and be easy for the average taxpayer to understand.
- E. IBCA does not support tiered taxation.

## **Property Tax Reassessment**

IBCA encourages the General Assembly to undertake a comprehensive re-evaluation of Indiana's property tax system. Such a re-evaluation should consider:

- A. A fair and realistic formula for determining the base value of farmland
- B. A cap on the annual growth or reduction of property tax on all parcels
- C. A minimum tax on all parcels and the elimination of the supplemental homeowner's property tax deduction.

## **Assessment of Agricultural Property**

IBCA believes that the soil productivity factors used by assessors to adjust the base assessed value of farmland should continue to reflect, as they have since 1980, the comparison of the productive potential of soil types associated with each soil's physical characteristics that promote plant growth. IBCA supports property tax assessment provisions that allow parcels of farmland to be:

- A. Classified as a farmland preservation parcel upon application to the county assessor;
- B. Assessed thereafter at a flat rate per acre if that parcel contains at least ten acres, does not contain a dwelling or other usable building, and is assessed as agricultural land;
- C. Subject to repayment to the county of the property tax benefit received over a period of up to ten years if the land is withdrawn from the classified farmland status.
- D. IBCA opposes the formula for determining farmland's base value that considers a number of factors including yield per acre, commodity prices and cash rents.
- E. IBCA opposes re-classification of agriculture land for tax reasons to the detriment of land owner.
- F. IBCA supports fair assessment of property taken by eminent domain.

1 **Local Tax Revenue**

2 IBCA supports the Soil Productivity Factor method of assessment provided that the use  
3 value scenario is used.  
4  
5

6 **Tangible Personal Property Tax**

7 IBCA supports the continued elimination of tangible personal property tax.  
8

9 **Beef Production Credit Needs**

10 A. IBCA should develop programs to facilitate dialogue and understanding between  
11 beef producers and Ag lenders concerning beef enterprise viability and cattle  
12 industry capital formation in Indiana.

13 B. IBCA should investigate and promote the use of financial and management  
14 programs to assist producers with planning on their operation.  
15

16 **Sales Tax Laws**

17 A. IBCA supports sales tax exemptions for any items related to production  
18 agriculture.

19 B. IBCA supports clarification of existing sales tax exemption laws and rules,  
20 including but not limited to fencing and drain tiles.

21 C. Educating retailers to these laws.  
22

23 **Death Taxes**

24 IBCA supports the elimination of all inheritance taxes, at both the State and Federal  
25 level  
26

27 **Unfunded Mandates**

28 Any local, state or federal mandate should only be allowed if it is fully funded by the  
29 mandating body.  
30

31 **U.S. Monetary Policy**

32 Recognizing that monetary policies of the Federal Reserve strongly impact the U.S.  
33 economy and that the Federal Reserve uses interest rates to control inflation and  
34 stimulate economic growth, IBCA recommends that the Federal Reserve be required to  
35 evaluate the impact of monetary policy changes on economic expansion and that these  
36 projections be made public.  
37

38 **Federal Tax Policy**

39 IBCA supports the review of the current Internal Revenue Code in its entirety and  
40 supports replacing it with a new, simplified tax system:

41 A. A new system shall:

- 42 1. Lower the tax rates on America's families;
- 43 2. End biases against working, saving and investing
- 44 3. Allow full deductibility of the payroll tax for working men and women;
- 45 4. Any changes must require a two-thirds super majority vote in Congress  
46 to raise taxes.

47 B. Any changes in tax policy shall promote the following six goals for a (national)  
48 21st century tax system:

- 49 1. Economic growth through incentives to work, save and invest;

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2. Fairness for all tax payers;
  3. Simplicity so that everyone can figure it out;
  4. Neutrality so that people and not government can make choices;
  5. Visibility so that people know the cost of government;
  6. Stability so that people can plan for their future.
- C. IBCA supports eliminating the Alternative Minimum Tax.

### **1031 Exchanges**

IBCA supports extending the time limits for 1031 exchanges for the benefit and sustainability of American agriculture. This system should allow for the investment in value added and other agricultural ventures.

### **Cash Accounting Methods**

IBCA supports retention of cash accounting methods for federal tax purposes.

### **Tax Credits for Productivity Losses**

IBCA supports the creations of a tax deduction, tax credit, or other offset programs to producers who are forced to reduce the productive value of their property in order to comply with mandated governmental programs.

### **Capital Gains Exclusion**

- A. IBCA supports the exclusion of at least \$6,000,000 of capital gains on the sale of a farm or any other agricultural capital asset; and if, at the time of death the owner had not exercised the exclusion, the \$6,000,000 is added to the estate tax exemption.
- B. IBCA supports an annual increase of capital gains exemption and/or elimination of the capital gains tax.
- C. Exemption of capital gains tax due to Eminent Domain.

### **Local Property Tax Abatement**

IBCA supports the elimination of property tax abatement, except to encourage the use of Brownfields Programs to utilize abandoned or existing facilities to preserve Indiana's farmland.

### **Indiana's Tax Policy**

IBCA supports the state's efforts to reduce the reliance on property taxes for funding and encourage economic development. As a summary, in regard to taxes:

- A. IBCA supports the elimination of welfare related levies from property taxes.
- B. IBCA supports the elimination of trial court levies from property taxes.
- C. IBCA supports a Homestead Credit of 15% with a minimum of \$35,000.00.
- D. IBCA supports the Investment Tax Credit.
- E. IBCA supports preserving the Property Tax Relief Credit.
- F. IBCA supports maintaining a County and Township Government structure.
- G. IBCA supports land and property taken by eminent domain to be free from capital gains taxes or income taxes.
- H. IBCA supports no new education or welfare programs be implemented without full funding of operational and capital expenses by means other than property taxes.

- 1 I. IBCA support an increase in state sales tax and income tax if property taxes
- 2 are eliminated.
- 3 J. IBCA supports local option income tax.
- 4 K. IBCA supports Indiana tax policy that reflects federal depreciation
- 5 allowances.

6

7 **Transportation Formula**

8 IBCA supports the development of a new transportation formula, including all trucks,  
9 for redistributing road tax among the counties.

10

11 **Incentives for Ag Ventures**

12 IBCA supports legislation that gives incentives for investment in agricultural ventures.

13

# NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

## **Sediment Control**

- A. Since good soil and water conservation practices are compatible with a productive cattle industry, IBCA actively supports; the best management practices to protect soil and water resources.
- B. IBCA supports voluntary conservation programs that encourage adoption of best conservation practices with state input.

## **Limited Access Right of Way Fencing**

IBCA supports federal or state funding for building and maintenance of fencing on limited access roadways.

## **Railroad Right of Way Fencing**

IBCA supports fencing of railroad right of way that requires the railroad company to pay all of the cost of building and maintaining such fence adjacent to private property.

## **Railroad Abandonment**

In the sale of abandoned railroad properties through agricultural land, the adjacent landowners should have the right of first refusal to purchase the property; and on property on which easements were granted, ownership should revert back to the current owner of the property on which the easement was granted.

## **Rails to Trails**

IBCA supports rails to trails programs as long as the following guidelines are followed:

- A. Adjacent farms shall have direct access to and/or across such right of ways.
- B. Weed Control laws shall pertain to all landowners, including state and governmental units.
- C. Rails to Trails associations should be responsible for upkeep of trails. No county tax dollars should be used for trails.
- D. Trail operators and/or owners should be held responsible for damage to adjacent property by trail users.
- E. Owners and operators of railroad trails shall be responsible to construct and maintain livestock secure fence, next to adjacent property, but within trail property.
- F. Notification of adjacent property owners prior to the establishment of new trails. A public hearing should be called for this purpose.

## **Livestock Predator Control**

IBCA supports programs for effective wildlife management and predator control and encourages members to use program assistance available from the Animal Damage Control Program of USDA - Animal Plant Health and Inspection Service at Purdue University and/or Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IN DNR).

1 **Wildlife Population Control**

2 Cattlemen continue to experience extensive fence damage and large crop loss due to  
3 the unmanaged wildlife population. We support more effective measures be taken by  
4 IN DNR to manage wildlife population, including but not limited to:

- 5 A. IBCA encourages more dialogue with the IN DNR on all wildlife species  
6 before reintroduction to the state, especially those species considered  
7 cattle predators.
- 8 B. Issuance of more hunting permits and/or extended seasons.
- 9 C. Granting farmers the right to protect his/her property from wild animals in  
10 any reasonable manner.
- 11 D. Granting direct payments to farmers for substantial crop losses and fence  
12 damage.
- 13 E. Encourage USDA Fish and Wildlife to create policy allowing for a more  
14 effective program to reduce all predatory animal species (including timber  
15 rattlesnakes and black vultures).

16  
17 **Air Protections**

- 18 A. IBCA opposes legislation to regulate air particulates, noise and odor from  
19 farming operations.
- 20 B. IBCA opposes new greenhouse gas regulation for livestock production.

21  
22 **Water Protection**

23 IBCA encourages cooperation between livestock groups, conservation groups and  
24 agencies that provide technical assistance and regulatory oversight in Indiana. Develop  
25 strategies that address our common environmental responsibilities and recognize  
26 agricultural cropland, pastureland and forestland as “working lands”.

- 27 A. Ground Water Protection: Ground water should be protected from  
28 contamination that would make the water unusable for its present and  
29 projected uses. IBCA shall counsel with appropriate state agencies in  
30 developing the strategy and implementation plan to protect Indiana’s  
31 ground water.
  - 32 B. Surface Water Protection: There needs to be a clear distinction between  
33 naturally occurring and man-made water containment areas. In the case of  
34 manmade drainage ditches; a similar distinction needs to be made for their  
35 use versus those of naturally occurring streams and waterways. When rules  
36 are written, they should be developed in consultation with affected land  
37 owning and/or farming parties and should reflect historical usage patterns.
  - 38 C. Access to Public Waters: IBCA supports state law as it defines public water  
39 sources uses for household purposes and drinking water for livestock as  
40 superior to all other uses. IBCA is in favor of voluntary fencing of streams  
41 and creeks that coincide with best practices to protect water quality and  
42 stream bank stabilization.
  - 43 D. IBCA supports additional funding for Clean Water Indiana in order to  
44 leverage federal monies for water and conservation efforts.
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1 **Trespassing on Private Lands**

2 IBCA encourages stepped-up enforcement of state trespassing laws to prohibit  
3 trespassing on private lands or access through private lands to gain access to public  
4 lands and waters.

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6 **Land Conservation Program Funding**

7 IBCA encourages cooperation between livestock groups, conservation groups  
8 and local, state and federal government agencies. Develop strategies that  
9 address our common environmental responsibilities and recognize agricultural  
10 cropland, pastureland and forestland as “working lands”.

- 11 A. IBCA supports the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, Grassland  
12 Reserve Program, Farmland Protection Program, Conservation Reserve  
13 Enhancement Program and similar programs to protect the environment and  
14 species habitat while supporting agricultural production.  
15 B. IBCA encourages more even distribution of program funds both  
16 geographically and species-specific.  
17 C. IBCA supports the efforts of and participation in the Grazing Lands  
18 Conservation Initiative.  
19 D. IBCA supports the development of a more user-friendly conservation  
20 programs that will address timeliness, flexibility, and allow for inflationary  
21 increases for producers.  
22 E. IBCA supports the Indiana Ag Nutrient Alliance with an annual contribution  
23 to support their mission.  
24

25 **Animal Feeding Operations**

26 IBCA encourages all producers to handle animal manure in a manner that coincides  
27 with regulations as of July 1, 2016. IBCA supports the state law requirement for  
28 Confined Feeding Operations (CFOs) to adhere to a zero-discharge performance  
29 standard. Acknowledge that Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) that  
30 discharge are subject to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollutant  
31 Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations. IBCA supports Indiana Livestock  
32 Coalition efforts to promote livestock feeding operations.

- 33 A. Standards should:  
34 1. Maintain the integrity of Indiana's surface waters;  
35 2. Recognize the site specific and management specific nature of  
36 individual operations;  
37 3. Cattle producers should not be required to conform with regulations  
38 until or unless expansion occurs whereupon the new standards must be  
39 met  
40 4. Remain focused within the parameters of the confined feeding law  
41 concerning water quality and not stray into jurisdiction of odor and dust  
42 without legislative consent  
43 5. Recognize that manure is an agronomic nutrient and is an organic by-  
44 product of value-added agriculture.  
45 B. IBCA supports uniform standards with regard to water quality from runoff or  
46 discharge regardless of origin.  
47 C. IBCA values skilled and educated Indiana Department of Environmental  
48 Management (IDEM) inspectors.

- 1 D. IBCA supports new technologies that allow producers options in manure  
2 management systems such as but not limited to; digesters, constructed  
3 wetlands, water purification systems; so that if waste water meets water  
4 quality standards, it may be discharged.  
5

### 6 **Environmental and Conservation Trust Funds**

7 IBCA believes that quasi-public money should not be spent for the removal of land  
8 from private ownership. IBCA recommends the following;

- 9 A. All lands purchased by environmental and conservation trusts, or other  
10 public lands should not be exempt from property tax, thus reducing the  
11 local tax base.  
12 B. Funds may be used to purchase development rights (development  
13 easements) to preserve farmland and protect natural habitats.  
14 C. Management and operation of land acquired through environmental and  
15 conservation trust fund programs should not have a negative impact on  
16 nearby agricultural lands.  
17

### 18 **Land Use Policy and Farmland Protection**

19 IBCA supports policies that are locally determined, market based and incentive laden.  
20 IBCA recognizes agriculture as an important economic contributor to Indiana and  
21 therefore should be recognized and included in economic and rural development  
22 policies and programs.  
23

24 IBCA encourages state government to:

- 25 A. Develop an Indiana Farmland Protection Program to leverage national  
26 funding initiatives.  
27 B. Develop a statewide farmland and open space protection policy model to  
28 assist local government planning groups.  
29 C. Develop and articulate a state policy on land use.  
30 D. Explore enabling legislation for creative and innovative solutions to land use  
31 conflicts.  
32 E. Provide technical assistance and information to enable local communities to  
33 engage in appropriate land use planning action.  
34 F. Explore the implications of tax policy on land use issues.  
35 G. Continue to support research on ways to increase the sustainability of  
36 agriculture.  
37 H. Create an intra-agency review process that serves to explore the impact of  
38 regulatory actions on land use.  
39 I. Support legislation to increase market value offered and paid on  
40 agricultural land entered into a land use program that is to be taken by  
41 eminent domain for public use.  
42 J. Assure post construction land has been restored to its original state.  
43 K. Support the work of the Indiana Land Resources Council (ILRC) to promote  
44 and coordinate wise land use positions. Encourage administration to re-  
45 establish ILRC.  
46 L. IBCA opposes the establishment of general moratoriums which prohibit  
47 expansion or development of agricultural operations.  
48

49 IBCA also encourages local communities to:

- 1 A. Implement a local land use initiative.
- 2 B. Determine community goals and objectives in compliance with enacted
- 3 regulatory tools.
- 4 C. Educate local planning officials so decisions are made in an informed
- 5 manner.
- 6 D. Raise awareness among local citizens of the consequences of the various
- 7 options and choices the county and/or community choose to implement.
- 8 E. Promote the use of brownfield sites for development sites.
- 9 F. Support formation of local farmland preservation districts with property tax
- 10 reduction incentives.
- 11 G. Use science-based facts on siting decisions for the expansion of livestock at
- 12 the local level.
- 13

14 IBCA also encourages producers to use science-based information when considering  
15 siting of livestock operations. IBCA also encourages good neighbor relations and  
16 ongoing communications with community members.

17  
18

### 19 **Species Protection**

- 20 A. The National Endangered Species Act should be amended to allow economical
- 21 agricultural and forest management practices in crop, livestock and timber
- 22 production on privately owned land. New legislation should include private
- 23 property rights protection.
- 24 B. IBCA opposes any kind of biological survey on privately owned land. Biological
- 25 surveys should require legislative authorization and funding prior to
- 26 implementation. However, if the pursuit of a survey is approved, we support
- 27 the protection of private property rights.
- 28 C. Any additions of new species to the Endangered Species list should be by
- 29 legislative process, including economic and scientific evaluation, rather than by
- 30 administrative action.
- 31 D. IBCA supports periodical review of the list of endangered species and removal
- 32 of those species that are no longer endangered.
- 33
- 34

1 **Global Climate Legislation**

2 IBCA is opposed to global climate legislation because:

- 3 A. A lack of scientific data has garnered widespread disagreement throughout  
4 the scientific community.  
5 B. The economic impact of proposed regulations has not been adequately  
6 assessed.  
7 C. Proposed solutions provide an unfair economic advantage to developing  
8 nations at the expense of developed nations.  
9 D. The proposed regulations have not been determined to be effective in  
10 addressing the alleged problem of climate change.  
11  
12

13 **Natural and Scenic Rivers Designations**

14 IBCA opposes any efforts to designate Indiana streams as Natural, Scenic, or  
15 Recreational Rivers.  
16

17 **State Rulemaking Process**

- 18 A. IBCA supports coordinated efforts by the Indiana Secretary of Agriculture and  
19 government agencies that influence or regulate agriculture.  
20 B. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) the Indiana  
21 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and other regulatory agencies should  
22 mandate and follow their written guidelines when enforcing state regulations.  
23

24 **IDEM Ag Liaison**

25 IBCA supports the position of an Agricultural Liaison position within IDEM at the senior  
26 staff level. The position should maintain its confidentiality protection to encourage  
27 communication and technical assistance at the producer level.  
28  
29