
DIGEST

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HB 754 Engrossed

2020 Regular Session

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Abstract: Expands the authority of livestock brand inspectors as peace officers by granting them certain law enforcement and police powers when exercising their duties under specific situations or by request of local law enforcement agencies.

Present law requires livestock brand inspectors to have certain powers and duties as peace officers to perform law enforcement functions relative to rules and regulations enacted by the La. Board of Animal Health, Part 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 3 of the La. Revised Statutes of 1950, provisions in the La. Criminal Code related to the theft of animals, the illegal branding or marking of animals, the disposition of strayed animals, the theft of any farm machinery, equipment, or supplies, and with respect to any other farm-related crime.

Proposed law retains present law and expands the powers and duties of livestock brand inspectors to add the following:

- (1) While on special assignment during any riot, insurrection, or any declared disaster or while in protection of immovable property, movable property, assets, and resources of the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry, any commissioned livestock brand inspector will possess all the powers and authority of regular law enforcement officers of this state.
- (2) Upon the request of any regular law enforcement agency of this state, livestock brand inspectors must prevent and detect crime, apprehend criminals, enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the state, keep the peace and good order in the state in the enforcement of the state's police powers, and perform any other related duties imposed upon them by the legislature.

(Adds R.S. 3:734(C) and (D))