AN ACT

RELATING TO FOOD; AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A STATE MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND QUALITY OF MEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION; PROVIDING PENALTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 25 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] STATE MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM--RULES-- PENALTIES--COOPERATION WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.--

A. The New Mexico livestock board shall adopt rules necessary to establish a comprehensive state meat inspection program for the inspection, processing and sale of meat and poultry products that meets or exceeds the standards and requirements for a state meat inspection program under the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the federal Poultry Products

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1   Inspection Act and the federal Humane Methods of Slaughter Act

2   of 1978, including rules to:

3   (1)   license facilities engaged in the

4   processing or manufacturing of meat and poultry products;

5   (2)   deem horse meat slaughtered for human

6   consumption as adulterated;

7   (3)   establish license requirements and

8   reasonable fees; and

9   (4)   provide inspection services.

10   B.   The New Mexico livestock board shall only

11   administer and enforce the program established pursuant to

12   Subsection A of this section if the board receives approval

13   from the federal government for a state meat inspection

14   program.

15   C.   A person violating a rule adopted by the New

16   Mexico livestock board pursuant to this section is guilty of a

17   misdemeanor and upon conviction may be sentenced to

18   imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed one

19   year and payment of a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars

20   ($1,000), unless that person acted in good faith.

21   D.   The New Mexico livestock board shall actively

22   seek and maintain coordination with federal authorities to

23   ensure alignment with and approval of the state meat inspection

24   program."

25   SECTION 2.   EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the

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provisions of this act is July 1, 2024.

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