



## RHODE ISLAND

### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

#### DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE & FOREST ENVIRONMENT

235 Promenade Street | Providence, Rhode Island 02908

### CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Section § 42-35-2.6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, following is a concise explanatory statement:

**AGENCY:** Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM)

**DIVISION:** Agriculture and Forestry

**RULE IDENTIFIER:** 250-RICR-40-05-5

**RULE TITLE:** Rules and Regulations Governing Livestock Welfare

**REASON FOR RULEMAKING:**

To make substantive changes throughout two sections of these regulations to create consistent standards for all types of livestock.

**ANY FINDING REQUIRED BY LAW AS A PREREQUISITE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RULE:**

These Rules and Regulations are promulgated pursuant to the authority of R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 42-17.1-2(19) and 42-17.1-4(3), and in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Rhode Island Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-35. These Rules and Regulations are also promulgated with the advice and consent of the Rhode Island Livestock and Welfare Standards Advisory Council pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 4-26-5(1), 4-26-5(3) and 4-26-3(7) of The Rhode Island Livestock and Welfare Standards Advisory Council Act of 2012.

**TESTIMONY, COMMENTS AND OBJECTIONS:**

The proposed amendment to this Regulation was posted as Direct Final Amendment on the Secretary of State's website on December 20, 2022 with a comment period that ended on January 19, 2023. The Department did not receive any comments during that period, nor did it receive a request for a public hearing.

**CHANGE TO TEXT OF THE RULE:**

As a result of there being no comments there were no changes to the text of the proposed amendment.

**REGULATORY ANALYSIS:**

Regarding the Regulatory Flexibility Analysis as required by RIGL § 42-35.1-4), RIDEM finds that the amendments to these regulations will not have an appreciable negative impact on the regulated entities. These amendments simply made consistent the standards for keeping various types of livestock by ensuring all livestock types have access to dry areas and are not deprived of feed and water if kept on pasture during weather events such as snow and ice. Compliance with these provisions will likely reduce livestock losses due to disease and nutrition, thereby increasing profitability to the animal owner.