

## STOP NAIS PETITION

**Whose Petition Is This?** This petition is sponsored by an alliance of people who have banded together against mandatory animal identification schemes. There is no one organization, and each of us can have a role. If you are interested in organizing in your state, contact Karin Bergener or Liberty Ark Coalition, and you'll be referred to others in your state. Karin Bergener, who is sponsoring this petition, is an attorney living and practicing in northeast Ohio. She raises poultry for the love of it, for the eggs, and to show her Khaki Campbells. She also owns a horse for pleasure riding and driving. She is a Steering Committee member of the Liberty Ark Coalition.

### Petition to Stop Animal ID Federal & State

#### **Bills in Congress, the States, and USDA's Actions**

Congress is considering legislation (currently, HR 3170, and two companion bills HR 1256 and HR 1254) that will virtually destroy livestock farmers, and make recreational livestock activities a thing of the past. Also, each year the Farm Bill funds NAIS in some way. Livestock producers – large, medium, and small, owners of backyard flocks, hobbyists and individuals raising show birds, horses, and other animals may soon be subjected to regulations under this proposed National Animal Identification System (NAIS). And, even though this legislation has not been passed, the US Department of Agriculture is implementing NAIS on a so-called voluntary basis. As if this wasn't enough, many states are establishing their own universal animal identification programs designed after NAIS.

#### Animals Included:

- Cattle
- Sheep
- Pigs
- Poultry (chickens & waterfowl)
- Goats
- Horses
- Llamas
- Alpacas
- Deer
- Elk
- Bison

#### **What NAIS Requires**

Under the proposed legislation, you will be required to identify EVERY bird, horse, goat, sheep, pig or cow you own with either an expensive microchip like those injected under the skin of dogs (estimated cost \$15-30 per chip), or (for birds) a 13- or 15-digit leg band. You will be required to register every animal with a central database that will include the animal's identification number, plus a "property identification number" (essentially, your address). Banding/microchipping will commence at hatching for poultry.

#### **NAIS is wrong because:**

- It's designed for marketing purposes – in which case the market should govern
- The database is impossible to design, build, or maintain, with 100's of millions of annual reports
- Tagging costs will be absurd - in poultry it will be 8 times the cost of an individual bird
- It won't control disease, just build a bureaucracy
- It will cost more than real disease control methods

#### **NAIS is Already Being Implemented**

The government has already started assigning ID numbers to farms, members of NPIP, Scrapies program, etc. States are being encouraged to register farms, and are receiving funding from USDA to get registrations. Citizens are not told NAIS is voluntary. Feed stores around the country are requiring citizens to give their names and addresses when they buy livestock feed. Secretary Johanns has said that USDA won't wait for Congress – it no longer believes that Congress must act first, passing laws.

**Send copies of the Signed Petitions to: Jane Williams, Hwy. 28, Bluffton, Arkansas 72827 for use in Arkansas.**

**Return Signed Petitions to: Karin C. Bergener, Esq., PO Box 749 Ravenna, Ohio 44266. Questions? Call Karin at 330-298-0065; email [bergener@config.com](mailto:bergener@config.com)**

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Karin Bergener                      signature here                      8034 Limeridge Rd,                      Ravenna, Ohio 44266

**Print Name\***                      **Signature\***                      **Address**                      **Town/State/Zip\***

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