



Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Act (GIPSA)

The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's agency that facilitates the marketing of livestock, poultry, meat, cereals, oilseeds, and related agricultural products, and promotes fair and competitive trading practices for the overall benefit of consumers and American agriculture.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is currently working on re-writing the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Act (GIPSA). The revision impacts a ban on the practice by processors who give "undue preference" to some producers over others, which had been previously banned by the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921.¹

The department submitted the proposed rule to the Office of Management and Budget. The proposal will be open for public comment in the fall of 2019.²

PURPOSE OF GIPSA

- Assuring fair competition and trade practices
- Safeguarding farmers and ranchers
- Protecting consumers
- Protecting livestock, meat, and poultry industry members from unfair, deceptive, unjustly discriminatory, and monopolistic practices

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS

- Cease and desist order
- Suspension of business operations
- Civil penalties up to a maximum of \$11,000 per violation; \$32,000 for violation of poultry payment provisions
- Permanent injunctions, fines or jail sentences for Justice actions

NDFU POLICY

We support the funding and enforcement of Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) proposed rules.