

North Dakota Stockmen's Association
SB 2139
Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee
Fort Union Room
Jan. 17, 2025

Good morning, Chairman Luick and members of the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee. For the record, my name is Julie Ellingson, and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, a 95-year-old beef cattle trade organization representing approximately 3,100 members from across the state. The Stockmen's Association also has a unique statutory responsibility to administer the brand recording program on behalf of the State of North Dakota.

As Sen. Patten described, SB 2139 is a straight-forward bill, adjusting the brand recording and rerecording fee from \$25 to \$50. This is not something we ask for very often. In fact, the last time the fee was adjusted was 22 years ago, in 2003.

It is important to understand that, in North Dakota, a registered brand is like the title to your vehicle, but for your animals, and has a five-year shelf life before it needs to be renewed in order to keep active. So, essentially, the cost to register or renew a brand in North Dakota is currently \$5 per year or, prospectively under this bill, \$10 per year.

There are more than 20,000 brands registered in the state, and they all come due at the same time. Consequently, there is substantial income on a renewal year and the subsequent grace-period year; however, on the three remaining years after that, there is little revenue to run the program, other than that obtained from mid-cycle new brands, transfers and

2025 Brand Recording Fees and Information

North Dakota

New brands, transfers and renewals are \$25.00. Duplicate cards are \$5.00.
5-year renewal.

Arizona

New brand or amending an existing brand is \$75.00.
Transfers are \$25.00.
5-year renewal are \$50.00

Montana

New brands: \$200.00, new freeze brand, \$210.00*
\$100 of the application fee is non-refundable if a brand is not registered/issued.
Transfers: \$200, Ornamental Brands: \$200.
10-year renewal.

California

New brands are \$70.00. Recording at \$70.00 entitles the applicant to use the brand until the following April 1. At that time, the brand owner shall pay the biennial renewal fee of \$70.00 by April 30 of that year.
Transfers are \$70.00.

Idaho

\$50.00 to \$150.00 depending on staggered expiration renewal year and alphabetical listing of brandowners.
Transfers are \$50.00.

Nebraska

New brands are \$150.00 (left and right sides require two separate applications with separate checks of \$100.00 each).
Add location - \$15.00 per location (same side only).
Add freeze - \$25.00 per side.
Transfers are \$40.00.
Brand research \$20.00 per hour and 1.00 copy.
Renewal every 4 years - \$50.00.

New Mexico

New brands are \$100.00.
Transfers are \$100.00.
Extra cards are \$10.00.
Recorded in 3-year increments up to 12 years.

Nevada

New brands are \$200.00 and \$35.00 application fee.
Transfer fees are \$200.00 and \$35.00 application fee.
Out-of-state brand recording for out-of-state owners of grazing animals are \$35 application fee, recording of \$50.00 year, renewed annually.
Renewal 5 years at \$200.00 plus \$35.00.

Oregon

New brands are \$25.00 per animal/species.
Transfers are \$25.00.
Renewals are \$15.00.
4-year staggered renewal.