

STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

In the Matter of the Proposed Rules
of the Board of Animal Health
Governing Part 1700.4800
The Importation of Bison and Elk

STATEMENT OF NEED
AND REASONABLENESS

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health has authority under MS §35.03 to make rules to protect the health of domestic animals of the state. The Board believes that tuberculin test requirements for Bison and Elk will decrease the possibility of introducing tuberculosis into domestic animals of this state. Therefore the Board proposes requiring a negative tuberculin test for Bison and Elk for the following reasons:

In 1984 as a result of two infected Bison herds in South Dakota, tuberculosis exposed Bison moved to 87 herds in 20 states. Eighteen herds were considered infected and the United States Department of Agriculture spent over \$420,000 in indemnity payments for Bison destroyed because of tuberculosis.

The source of the original infection is believed to be Elk that associated with Bison.

There appears to be more rapid dissemination of tuberculosis in Bison.

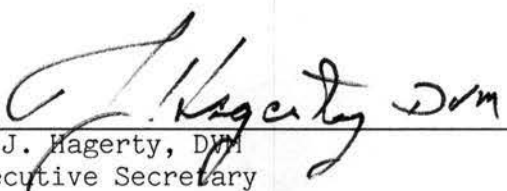
The committee on tuberculosis of the United States Animal Health Association at its 1984 meeting strongly recommended that all Bison raised under agricultural conditions should be handled the same as cattle with respect to tuberculosis testing.

The committee on Zoological animals of the United States Animal Health Association at its 1984 meeting urged that the various States require a negative tuberculin test for Bison before allowing entry into each state.

For purposes of compliance with MS §14.11 the Board estimates that there will be no expenditure of money by local public bodies and there will not be any adverse impact on agricultural land in Minnesota.

With respect to Chapter 188 Section 1 Laws of Minnesota 1983 as it relates to the impact on small business the Board has determined that this rule will not have any material effect on small business.

Date 2-12-85



T. J. Hagerty, DVM
Executive Secretary
Board of Animal Health