COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE DIVISION OF INSPECTION AND CONSUMER SERVICES

FARM PRODUCTS ACT AND COMMODITY HANDLER ACT (12-16 C.R.S.) SB09-114

Background Information: The Farm Products and Commodity Handler Acts protect agricultural dealers and producers by ensuring a financially stable marketplace for their products. These laws require farm products dealers and commodity handlers to be licensed and bonded.

This bill implements the following DORA 2008 Sunset Review recommendations and a Senate Agriculture Committee request*:

- Continue the licensing and regulation of Farm Products Dealers and Commodity Handlers for eleven years, until 2020.
- Repeal the March 1 late filing date for license renewal, and authorize the Department to establish the license expiration date by rule.
- Require Farm Products Cash Buyers to pay the same license fee as Small-Volume Dealers.
- Authorize Small-Volume Dealers to sell commodities, in addition to farm products.
- Direct all fines to be credited to the General Fund.
- Remove the Commodity Handler Agent license requirement.
- Remove the authority of the Commissioner to investigate complaints against transporters of farm products.
- Remove the limitation that the Commissioner may only access properties and records pertaining to the Farm Products and Commodity Handler Acts during regular business hours.*