



State of Wisconsin
Governor Tony Evers

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Secretary-designee Randy Romanski

July 2020 Legislative Overview:

Legislation with a direct DATCP impact that was still active on March 5th, but failed to receive a final vote in the Senate:

- **Jan. 2020 Special Session AB / SB 6 – Wisconsin Initiative for Dairy Exports**
 - Legislation would create funding for DATCP to assist with dairy exports
 - Amendment adds meat and crop exports, and removes funding for this biennium.
 - Introduced: 2/5/20
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - Passed Assembly as amended: 2/20/20
- **Jan. 2020 Special Session AB / SB 7 – Dairy processor grants**
 - Legislation would increase the funding available for dairy processor grants at DATCP
 - Introduced: 2/5/20
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/20/20
- **AB 31 / SB 35 – Tractor rollover protection grants**
 - Legislation would provide a new grant program at DATCP for roll cages on tractors
 - Introduced: 2/15/19
 - Passed Assembly: 2/20/20
- **AB 147 / SB 132 – Caller ID Spoofing**
 - Legislation prohibits call “spoofing” by telemarketers, and members of the general public
 - Introduced: 3/20/19
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/11/20
 - DATCP may promulgate rules to implement this
- **AB 353 / SB 328 – Inspections at recreational and educational camps**
 - Legislation allows DATCP the greater flexibility in inspecting camps
 - Introduced: 7/23/19
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/18/20
- **AB 511 / SB 451 – Fertilizer Labeling**
 - Legislation impacts the labeling requirements for fertilizer sold in Wisconsin
 - Introduced: 9/27/19
 - Passed Assembly: 2/20/20
- **AB 515 / SB 463 – Labeling food as a type of dairy product or as a dairy ingredient**
 - Legislation requires changes to retail food inspections related to product labeling
 - Introduced: 9/27/19
 - DATCP registered in favor of this bill in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/20/20
 - DATCP rulemaking required to implement this
- **AB 516 / SB 466 – Labeling a food product as a type of milk**
 - Legislation requires changes to retail food inspections related to product labeling
 - Introduced: 9/27/19

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- DATCP registered in favor of this bill in committee
- Passed Assembly: 2/20/20
- DATCP rulemaking required to implement this
- **AB 518 / SB 464 – Labeling a food product as meat**
 - Legislation requires changes to retail food inspections related to product labeling
 - Introduced: 9/27/19
 - DATCP registered in favor of this bill in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/20/20
 - DATCP rulemaking required to implement this
- **AB 524 / SB 505 – Restores funding for a farmer tuition program that was eliminated in the early 2000s by \$50,000 annually**
 - Legislation reactivates a currently unfunded grant program at DATCP and moves the grant award decision-making from DATCP to the Wisconsin Technical College System Board
 - Introduced: 10/11/19
 - Passed Assembly: 11/7/19
- **AB 627 / SB 563 – Extension Services at the UW System**
 - Legislation provides additional funding for state specialists at UW CALS
 - Introduced: 11/15/19
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - DATCP registered in favor of this bill in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/20/20
- **AB 713 / SB 670 – Residuals from Waste-to-Energy facilities to be exempt from tipping fees at waste disposal facilities**
 - Legislation would have a minimal, but negative impact on the environmental fund
 - Introduced: 1/8/20
 - Passed Assembly: 2/20/20
- **AB 790 / SB 723 – County conservation staffing**
 - Legislation would provide additional funding for county conservation staff
 - Introduced: 1/24/20
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/18/20
- **AB 792 / SB 717 – Clean sweep / PFAS**
 - Legislation would create a new grant program at DATCP to dispose of PFAS chemicals
 - Introduced: 1/24/20
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/18/20
- **AB 795 / SB 715 – Water quality task force omnibus bill**
 - Legislation creates a number of different water quality related programs at DATCP, including:
 - Water stewardship certification grants, increased funding for producer-led watershed protection grants, crop insurance rebates, and a grazing coordinator position
 - Introduced: 1/24/20
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/18/20
 - DATCP may promulgate rules to implement this
- **AB 796 / SB 718 – Nitrate pilot program**
 - Legislation creates a pilot grant program at DATCP for farmers to experiment with new practices to reduce nitrate loading
 - Introduced: 1/24/20
 - DATCP provided testimony in committee
 - Passed Assembly: 2/18/20

- DATCP emergency rulemaking required
- DATCP permanent rulemaking required
- **AB 873 / SB 818 – Agriculture building tax credit**
 - Legislation would create a tax credit on buildings used exclusively for farming of up to \$7,500
 - Introduced: 2/10/20
 - Passed in Assembly: 2/20/20

COVID-19 Emergency Response:

- **EmR 2002 – Residential rental late fees**
 - Rule created in response to Emergency Order 8 to prevent residential tenants from being charged late fees on their rent during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - JCRAR voted to suspend EmR 2002: 6/25/20
 - JCRAR also voted to introduce legislation next year to prevent a similar rule during a future emergency order by the Governor.
- **Executive Order 72 – Price Gouging**
 - Executive Order 72 authorized DATCP to enforce prohibitions against price gouging during an emergency, and proclaimed a period of abnormal economic disruption.
 - DATCP explored opening an emergency rule on price gouging, but ultimately pulled it back.
 - Period of economic disruption officially ended: 7/3/20
 - DATCP continues to investigate instances of price gouging up until July 3rd.

2021-2023 DATCP budget:

- **Governor’s budget letter to state agencies received: 6/5/20**
 - State agencies to not request any additional GPR-funded expenditures in either year of the upcoming biennium.
 - State agencies to not seek any new positions, from any fund source in either year of the upcoming biennium.
 - State agencies to repurpose existing vacancies wherever it is feasible.
- **Official budget request due: 9/15/20**