

Alaska State Legislature

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REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CHENAULT SPEAKER OF THE ALASKA STATE HOUSE

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HOUSE BILL 231: *"An Act eliminating the Department of Revenue's duty to register cattle brands."*

House Bill 231 removes the statute, AS 44.25.020(3), that requires the Department of Revenue to register cattle brands.

Prior to statehood, all duties associated with the registration of cattle brands had resided with the Territorial Department of Finance and later assumed by the Department of Revenue. According to Legislative Research, although the duties of recording cattle brands was delegated, through statute, to the Division of Agriculture, legislators may have "justified the split by the use of differing terms, recording versus registration" though what was meant by the distinction was unclear.

The Legislative Research report that is included within your back-up materials provides the history and other information as it relates to cattle branding within the Department of Revenue.

The elimination of this statute helps clarify that cattle branding clearly resides within the Division of Agriculture and not the Department of Revenue who have not been involved in registering brands for a number of years.