



NEWS

RAYMOND POE, DIRECTOR • BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 17, 2017

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE BEGINS PILOT PROGRAM OFFERING ONLINE LICENSE RENEWALS

Part of the Administration's efforts to modernize state government

SPRINGFIELD, IL. – As a mostly regulatory state agency, the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) processes more than 70,000 licenses each year for farmers, producers, agribusinesses and various other organizations. Under an initiative launched by Governor Bruce Rauner, all state agencies are looking for ways to improve the way our state government meets the needs of Illinois' taxpayers. With that in mind, state Ag Director Raymond Poe has directed all bureaus to develop a plan to offer online license renewals as a way to streamline the way the Department conducts business with its constituents. The first bureau to undertake this pilot project will be the Bureau of Animal Health & Welfare.

“Businesses these days are looking for ways to be more efficient and effective with their time and resources,” said Ag Director Raymond Poe. “Our goal should be to make doing business in the state of Illinois easier, not more difficult. Utilizing digital technology, we will be able to increase efficiencies for all parties, reduce costs and provide a positive experience for our customers.”

Beginning this week, the Bureau will mail out renewal notices to all current licensees in compliance with the Illinois Animal Welfare Act. Included in the letter will be instructions on how to renew a license online, as well as a sample to serve as a tutorial.

The Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare currently issues over 5200 licenses each year in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act. The following licenses will be available for online renewal under this pilot program: Pet Shop Operator, Cattery Operator, Dog Dealer, Kennel Operator, Animal Control, Animal Shelter, Horse Rescue and Guard Dog Service.

Those wishing to renew their license may do so by visiting www.agrlicensing.Illinois.gov. A link to the site can also be found on the Department's homepage.

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