

# USDA Proposed Rule: Inclusive Competition and Market Integrity under the Packers and Stockyards Act



Increasingly over the past 40 years, market concentration and other factors have left livestock & meat producers vulnerable to unjust dealings. To help, USDA is proposing a new rule under the Packers & Stockyards Act of 1921, which promotes market competition & integrity. The rule aims to:



**Protect people at higher risk of unjust treatment** in the marketplace, based on their race, gender, sexual orientation, and religious affiliation.



**Ban retaliatory practices** to protect activities such as: communicating with government agencies, joining producer or grower associations, being a witness in a proceeding against a packer or live poultry dealer, and asserting legal and contractual rights.



**Offer protection against deceptive contracts** that are false, misleading, and result in harm to producers.



**Inspect relevant records** to better monitor compliance with the Act.

Read the draft rule at [www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/unfair-practices-violation-packers-and-stockyards-act](https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/unfair-practices-violation-packers-and-stockyards-act) Once the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register, we'll provide more information so anyone interested can comment.

Learn more about fair markets at [www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/fair-competitive](https://www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/fair-competitive)

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