

1 Sec. X. STUDY REGARDING HUMANE TREATMENT OF DAIRY
2 ANIMALS

3 During the 2020 legislative interim, the Agency of Agriculture shall, in
4 consultation with a range of stakeholders with expertise in the management of
5 dairy animals, including organizations dedicated to promoting the welfare of
6 animals, study the issue of humane treatment of dairy animals, and, on or
7 before December 1, 2020, issue recommendations to the House and Senate
8 Committees on Agriculture and the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary
9 regarding appropriate requirements for the humane treatment of dairy animals,
10 including:

11 (1) whether and how to restrict the use of tethers, tie-stalls, stanchion
12 lockups, and continuous indoor confinement housing practices that limit
13 natural activities such as lying down and standing up, fully extending limbs,
14 moving about freely, exploratory behavior, and grooming;

15 (2) whether dairy animals should be provided with the opportunity for
16 daily exercise or seasonally appropriate grazing, or both; and

17 (3) whether and how to impose requirements on flooring or bedding that
18 would allow for normal lying and resting behavior and minimize detrimental
19 effects on an animal’s physical condition, such as susceptibility to disease,
20 parasites, lameness, or mastitis.

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