

189A.4 Exemptions.

1. In order to accomplish the objective of [this chapter](#), the secretary may exempt the following types of operations from inspection:

a. Slaughtering and preparation by any person of livestock and poultry of the person's own raising exclusively for use by the person and members of the person's household, and the person's nonpaying guests and employees.

b. Any other operations which the secretary may determine would best be exempted to further the purposes of [this chapter](#), to the extent such exemptions conform to the federal Meat Inspection Act and the federal Poultry Products Inspection Act and the regulations thereunder.

2. a. The secretary may allow a poultry establishment at which inspection is maintained to engage in custom operations, and exempt from inspection any poultry slaughtered or any poultry or poultry products otherwise prepared on such custom basis, provided that any carcasses, parts thereof, poultry, or poultry products wherever handled on a custom basis, or any containers or packages containing such articles, are separated at all times from carcasses, parts thereof, poultry, or poultry products prepared for sale, and that all such articles prepared on a custom basis, or any containers or packages containing such articles, are plainly marked "Not for Sale" immediately after being prepared and kept so identified until delivered to the owner, and that the establishment conducting the custom operation is maintained and operated in a sanitary manner.

b. (1) Paragraph "a" shall be implemented, including administered and enforced by the department of agriculture and land stewardship, on and after the publication date of the issue of the Iowa administrative bulletin that includes a notice by the secretary of agriculture stating any of the following:

(a) Federal law, including a statute or regulation, allows for the implementation.

(b) The United States department of agriculture has delivered to the department of agriculture and land stewardship an official approval of the implementation in writing.

(2) The department of agriculture and land stewardship shall send a copy of the notice to the Iowa Code editor at least two weeks prior to the publication date of the Iowa administrative bulletin as described in subparagraph (1).

(3) This paragraph is repealed on the date that paragraph "a" is implemented.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §189A.4]

[2024 Acts, ch 1105, §1](#); [2025 Acts, ch 134, §42](#)

Referred to in [§189A.5](#)

Subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph 1 amended