



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Office of Representative David Cook

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The "Lone Cattleman" Submits His First Bill as a Freshman Representative



STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX –

Freshman Representative David Cook (R-8) last Thursday submitted his first bill as the "lone cattleman" elected to the Arizona State Legislature, carrying on a tradition of ranchers and cattlemen serving in the legislature which dates back to the territorial days of the state.

HB 2253, an agricultural bill focusing on animal identification and powers afforded to the state veterinarian, would prevent

sensitive data from being submitted to the Federal Government, unless required by state law or volunteered through participation in the National Animal Identification System. This data includes: **"premises registration data, animal identification data, animal tracking data, producer information or other information relating to animal identification..."**

Cattlemen and ranchers have a long history of serving in the Arizona House and Senate, many having occupied the highest leadership in each chamber. Former House Speakers Jake Flake, Joe Lane, Stan Turley, and Mark Killian are just several of the many members who proudly represented the ranching and cattle community. In the Senate, third-generation rancher Senator Steve Pierce wore the badge of the cattlemen proudly until his retirement in 2016.

After over 100 years of cattlemen and ranchers making their way from rural Arizona to the State Capitol, Representative David Cook now remains the "Lone Cattleman" at the State Legislature, representing a district heavily supported by the ranching, cattle, and mining industries.

"The ranching and cattle communities are crucial to this state. We ranchers have a long history of 'telling it like it is' and bringing a voice to rural Arizonans. I'm here to be their

advocate at the Capitol and to continue this tradition of public service in the ranching community," says Cook.

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