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PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCATE
CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN'S FOUNDATION

POSITION SUMMARY

The Public Policy Advocate is chiefly responsible for advancing the Foundation's advocacy priorities. The Public Policy Advocate is charged with educating state and federal policymakers about the environmental benefits, nutritional contributions, and economics of cattle grazing and beef production, and with advancing the policy priorities of California's cattle ranchers before those state and federal policymakers. The Advocate must be equally capable of communicating ranch practices to urban lawmakers and translating complex regulatory initiatives in a manner comprehensible to rural ranchers.

FULL JOB DESCRIPTION

Who We Are

The California Cattlemen's Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to strengthen the future of California's beef industry through investment in research, education, and advocacy programs designed to support sustainable cattle production.

Working at the California Cattlemen's Foundation

The Public Policy Advocate will be based in the offices of the California Cattlemen's Foundation housed in the California Cattlemen's Association building in downtown Sacramento, with opportunities for remote work upon demonstrated effectiveness and success in the position. The Public Policy Advocate will be initially supervised by the Vice President of Government Affairs of the California Cattlemen's Association. As the position is substantially funded by the California Cattle Council, the Public Policy Advocate may be called upon to provide updates to the Council's Executive Director and/or Board of Directors.

In California, urban and suburban policymakers often lack familiarity with animal agriculture, rural economies, rangeland ecology, and the numerous benefits of well-managed cattle grazing. Policymakers are often presented with cherry-picked or misleading studies, anecdotes, and opinions that unfairly malign cattle producers and the beef they produce. The purpose of the California Cattlemen's Foundation – and the Public Policy Advocate in particular – is to educate policymakers about the benefits of cattle ranching to California's environment and economy and to demonstrate how regulatory initiatives may impact the state's cattle producers, empowering policymakers to set sound public policy based on the totality of the facts.

Job duties may include

- Monitoring the *Federal Register* and notices from various state regulatory boards, commissions, and agencies to stay abreast of regulatory and policy initiatives impacting California's beef producers

- Coordinating advocacy with other industry groups such as the California Cattlemen’s Association, California Cattle Council, Public Lands Council, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, and others
- Drafting and submitting written comments on proposed state and federal policy initiatives
- Providing verbal testimony before state regulatory bodies
- Communicating the Foundation’s engagement and the potential impacts of pending policy initiatives with ranchers via phone, email, and at in-person events
- Providing written policy updates in cattle industry publications
- Fostering relationships with regulators and key staff of regulatory agencies which impact the cattle industry
- Representing the cattle industry as a participant in various stakeholder initiatives and working groups

Minimum Qualifications

- A bachelor’s degree in Political Science, Public Policy, or similar field of study
- An independent, self-driven work ethic
- Experience undertaking complex research, including ability to identify, understand, and synthesize statutes, regulations, and academic articles
- Strong written communication skills, with the ability to tailor writing style to varied audiences (including cattle ranchers, subject-matter experts, and agency officials)
- Strong verbal communication skills, including the ability to confidently speak in public
- Ability to build effective interpersonal relationships and rapport with regulators, agency staff, cattle producers, and other stakeholders
- Flexibility to travel in state (with infrequent travel outside of state)

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in, or familiarity with, California’s agricultural industry
- Prior experience in government affairs, communications, or related fields

Job Type

Full Time

Compensation

An attractive compensation package will be offered based upon experience.

To Apply

Submit resumé, cover letter, and a writing sample to lisa@calcattlemen.org. Application materials should demonstrate that the applicant possesses the minimum qualifications outlined above.