

Keeping an EYE on NAIS

By Derry Brownfield

I'm having some problems with the NAIS, National Animal Identification System). There are some strange things about the wording of the NAIS initiative. I believe that it will affect our Rights and our way of life as we know it. It's more than micro-chipping your animals. I've been digging into some of the objectives and definitions of NAIS, and I'd like to share with you some of my observations as I dig through the materials from the USDA, agri-Watchdogs and our state Agricultural Departments, etc. on this subject. If I'm "off base" I'd like to hear from you too. If enacted, NAIS will require many things of our 'rural, agri/animal business'. If you own, reproduce or transport any animal, your property will have to be registered' for the federal government traceback program. This is, as NAIS puts it, 'in the event of an animal health problem that could threaten the health of the general populace'. This is the publicly understood statement most of us have heard regarding this. (Remember the one mad cow?). USDA has chosen at this time not to issue mandatory federal animal identification regulations but is encouraging states to implement NAIS (so it's 'coming to each and every state' first!) NAIS also states that 'all movement of animals from their premise origin will have to be reported. (- this would include my daughter riding her horse to the neighbor's property. And heaven forbid the dog that follows her!) The main item mentioned in this

proposal that tripped my trigger is, Mandatory Premise Registration-One of the first objectives listed to implement NAIS. Even before identifying the number and kinds of animals you own, NAIS wants to know where you live; they want to know every animal on your property at the time of this 'Premise Registration'. Your "cattle, horses, goats, poultry, sheep, swine, alpacas, llamas, bison, deer and elk, NAIS is not limited to these animals and may be extended to include dogs, rabbits and other animals." (- tag a chicken? I want to see that! And won't HSUS (Humane Society) love knowing where all the large groups of dogs are!) My post office, my county assessor, my law enforcement dept., my rural fire dept., etc.. is aware of my location? So, I am identified by my property's location quite well now. I am not lost-my taxes find me every year! So why register? "Premise Registration" is the statement that set off my Constitutional radar as my family has come to call it. It's that moment when someone is about to tell me what I can or cannot do on MY property, or with MY life, after I've been educated to believe my Rights are my Rights, as long as I live within the law. So my antennae were raised and I set about looking to define what Premise Registration meant to me and the use of the word 'premise' in NAIS materials. Now upon closer inspection, NAIS mentions identifying my property, not just my animals, but my real estate? I needed to know why NAIS was redefining its objective-to include property, because I was told it was 'to protect the regional and national health, wealth and welfare of our citizens' and "to let the government track the births, deaths, co-mingling and all movements of all livestock in the U.S. NOT to identify my real estate. Well fellow animal lovers, no where in the U.S. Constitution is the word 'premise' ever used; the Constitution uses the word 'property'. The NAIS initiative never uses the word 'property', but uses 'premise'. Hmm... (my antennae are really alert now!) So what' the difference between 'property' and 'premise'? The difference my fellow animal-owning citizens is OWNERSHIP, as stated in the Constitution when it uses the word 'property'. If you and I don't know the difference can we honestly commit our valuable, privately owned homes, livestock, animals and farms to NAIS? Let's see...The Webster

Dictionary defines property as 1) the right to possess, use and dispose of something; ownership. 2) a thing or things owned; holdings or possessions: especially land or real estate owned. Premise-is used by NAIS, why is this important? A 'premise' has no protection under the U.S. Constitution. Property, however always has the Rights of the Owner attached to it as protected by the U.S. Constitution. The definition of 'premises' from the dictionary is "the part of a deed or lease that states its reason, the parties involved, and the property in conveyance." (conveyance meaning the transfer of ownership). WHEW! So as I understand it now potentially, an NAIS Premise Registration-an identification of my property-transfers My Ownership, of My Property to another party (our government) and I have not recourse under the U.S. Constitution because I have allowed my property to be identified as a 'premise'! So I have no rights as promised by the Constitution if my real estate is declared a 'premise'! (My antennae are working overtime now!) A simple juxtaposition of words, if I agree to register my property as a 'premise' and I am no longer an "owner", but a "tenant" or 'one who pays rent to occupy or use land, a building, etc..' So I become a Renter of my own Property! With no recourse under our Constitution-the law of the land, the rights of our citizenry! I'm not deeding my property to my family, but to the NAIS!! I don't THINK so! NAIS will require Premise Registration- I will not transfer ownership of my property-my right to own, to anyone I do not choose as promised by our Constitution! Unless I unwittingly redefine my property as a Premise, by registering my property with NAIS!!! It's already happening, Colorado has already adopted NAIS for its states livestock, pets, etc.. Children exhibiting the Colorado State Fair last year (2007) were denied their winnings if their property did not have a Premise Registration. It is also reported by USDA that in Colorado, they have signed an agreement with the FFA (Future Farmers of America) valued at \$600,000 to promote premise registration. In addition to that, they have aligned with the Co-op. Extension to promote their 4-H groups. So they're starting with our Youth-if you don't have premise registration, your children cannot exhibit at state functions like the state fair unless their parents property has an NAIS Premise Registration. Pretty low for a federal department to use our children to implement their NAIS program if you ask me! But it is also the intent of USDA and the means they are willing to use to implement NAIS. If NAIS is done state by state, it will become mandatory by USDA eventually, making me all the more crazed. I'm going to continue to dig into NAIS, and I'd encourage you to do the same. Some excellent resources I found are : www.rcalfusa.com, www.libertyark.net, www.derrybrownfield.com (You can listen to him on radio too!). Educate yourself on NAIS, and know what kind of legal documents you're being asked to sign, and the end result of each and every one; or you may wake up one day in a 'tenement' you've worked your entire life to 'own' and will to your children someday. This property has it all. Currently used as a Dog Breeding facility, but could be used as a dog boarding or horse boarding facility. At one time they operated a feed store. Beautiful pool area with bathroom, kids play area. There are currently 26 custom dog kennels and room for more. Vet area and plenty of storage. 6 covered horse stalls all on 7.5 acres. For more information on this property, call, email or visit us at www.EastValleyRealEstate.com.