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On March 16, 2020, Gov. J.B. Pritzker issued Executive Order No. 2020 – 07 which, starting today, temporarily prohibits public or private gatherings of 50 people or more in order to limit the spread of COVID-19. After communications with state leaders, IBA believes that livestock sales are exempt from this mandatory order under Section 2 as “providers of essential goods”.

At this time, producers may continue to hold livestock sales as scheduled. IBA strongly recommends organizers encourage customers to use online or phone bidding options when possible, especially for out of state buyers, those over 60 years of age or who have compromised immune systems and buyers who are feeling sick. Organizers and those attending livestock sales are encouraged to follow CDC guidelines and mitigation measures, which include avoiding person-to-person contact, avoiding touching ones face, washing hands frequently and sneezing or coughing in a tissue or your elbow.

IBA staff will continue to monitor this constantly changing situation and provide updates and information as it becomes available.