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## **House GOP applauds effort to reorganize youth livestock show after being canceled due to MLG's COVID mandates**

Santa Fe – The New Mexico State Fair begins this week in Albuquerque, however many youth participants will be shifting their focus to Roswell. Organizers of the annual State Fair livestock show canceled the Albuquerque event, citing Governor Lujan Grisham's COVID mandates as a major factor in the decision. The event was reorganized in Roswell at the Eastern New Mexico Fairgrounds as the New Mexico Youth Livestock Expo on September 14 – 17, 2021.

"The tremendous effort that the city of Roswell and our agriculture community have put together to ensure that this moves forward really reveals how strong rural values run in this state," said House Republican Leader Jim Townsend (Artesia). "It is very unfortunate that the Governor's decisions have impeded on the State Fair's activities again this year, however I am certain that the youth livestock show will be just as good as it has ever been. These opportunities for our children to show and sell their work instills important values and keeps our state's great agricultural heritage alive."

Entries for the New Mexico Livestock Expo are due on September 8, 2021. Entries are free and there is no limit on the number of entries made. More information can be found at [nmyle.fairwire.com](http://nmyle.fairwire.com).

"These livestock shows provide an important opportunity for future agriculture producers to learn livestock production, skills and practices, and I am so proud of New Mexicans banding together to ensure these opportunities are not lost," said House Republican Caucus Chair Rebecca Dow (T or C). "Canceling the livestock show at the State Fair might seem insignificant compared to the other activities, yet the NM State Fair is one of the few events where Agriculture and Albuquerque come together. It's a chance for urban kids to understand where their food comes from. In a time of unprecedented division in our nation, this was an opportunity to create understanding of our state's diversity."

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