

sheep and sheep products during the representative period is entitled to register and vote in the referendum. Each producer, feeder, and importer entity shall be entitled to cast only one ballot in the referendum. Importers who only import raw wool are not eligible to register and vote in the referendum.

(b) Proxy registration and voting. Proxy registration and voting is not authorized, except that an officer or employee of a corporate producer, feeder or importer, or any guardian, administrator, executor, or trustee of a producer, feeder's, or importer's estate, or an authorized representative of any eligible producer, feeder, or importer entity (other than an individual producer, feeder, or importer), such as a corporation or partnership, may register and cast a ballot on behalf of that entity. Any individual who registers to vote in the referendum on behalf of any producer, feeder, or importer entity shall certify that he or she is authorized by such entity to take such action.

(c) Joint and group interest. A group of individuals, such as members of a family, joint tenants, tenants in common, a partnership, owners of community property, or a corporation engaged in sheep production, sheep feeding or the importation of sheep and sheep products as a producer, feeder, or importer, entity, shall be entitled to only one vote, provided, however, that any member of a group may register to vote as a producer, feeder, or importer if he or she is an eligible producer, feeder, or importer separate from the group.

**§ 1280.653 Time and place of registration and voting.**

The referendum shall be held for one day on a date to be determined by the Secretary. Eligible persons shall register and vote following the procedures in § 1280.656 of this Subpart. Except for absentee ballots, registration and voting shall take place during the normal business hours of each county CES office.

**§ 1280.654 Facilities for registering and voting.**

Each county CES office shall provide:

- (1) adequate facilities and space to permit producers, feeders, and importers to register and to mark their ballots in secret,
- (2) a sealed box or other suitable receptacle for registration forms and ballots that is kept under observation during office hours and secured at all times, and
- (3) copies of the Order for review.

**§ 1280.655 Registration form and ballot.**

A ballot (Form LS-61) and combined registration form (Form LS-61-2) shall be used for voting in person. The information required on the registration form includes name, address, county of voter residence, and volume of production. The form also contains the certification statement referenced in § 1280.656(a)(1) of this Subpart. The ballot requires producers, feeders and importers to check a "yes" or "no" and record their volume of production. A combined registration and voting form (Form LS-62) shall be used for absentee voting. The information required on the combined registration and voting form includes name, address, telephone number, and county of voter residence, and volume of production. The form also contains the certification statement referenced in § 1280.656(b)(1) of this Subpart. The ballot requires producers, feeders and importers to check "yes" or "no" and record their volume of production

**§ 1280.656 Registration and voting procedures.**

(a) Registering and voting in-person.

(1) Each producer, feeder, and importer, except importers who import only raw wool, who wants to vote in a referendum shall register on the day of voting at the county CES office in which the producer's, feeder's, or importer's residence is located, or at the county CES office that serves the county in which the producer's, feeder's, or importer's residence is located. Producer, feeder, or importer entities other than individuals shall register at the county CES office in the county in which their headquarters office or business is located, or at the county CES office that serves the county in which the entities' headquarters office or business is located. Producers, feeders, and importers will be required to record on the voter registration list (Form LS-61-3) their names and, if applicable, the name of the entity they can represent before they receive a registration form and ballot. To register, producers, feeders, or importers shall complete the registration form (Form LS-61-2) and certify that:

- (i) they or the entity they represent were producers, feeders, or importers during the specified representative period;
  - (ii) the person voting on behalf of an entity referred to in § 1280.652 is authorized to do so; and
  - (iii) the volume of production listed is a true and accurate representation.
- (2) Each eligible producer, feeder, or importer who has not voted by means of an absentee ballot may cast a ballot in-

person at the location and time set forth in § 1280.653 of this Subpart and on a date to be announced by the Secretary. Eligible persons who record their name and the entity they represent on the voter registration list (Form LS-61-3) will receive a registration form/envelope (Form LS-61-2) and a ballot (Form LS-61). Voting shall be conducted under the supervision of the local county CES agent or designee. Voters would enter the information requested on the registration form (Form LS-61-2) as indicated above. Producers, feeders, and importers would then mark their ballots to indicate "yes" or "no" and record their volume of production in the space provided on the ballot. Voters shall place their completed ballots in an envelope marked "SHEEP BALLOT," (Form LS-61-1) seal and place it in the completed and signed registration form/envelope marked "SHEEP REFERENDUM," (Form LS-61-2) seal that envelope and personally place it in a box marked "Ballot Box" or other suitable receptacle. A copy of the applicable voter registration list (Form LS-61-3) prepared by the county CES office shall be provided to each CFSA county office for in-person voter verification.

(b) Absentee voting.

(1) Eligible producers, feeders, and importers who are unable to vote in person may request a combined registration and absentee ballot form (Form LS-62) and two envelopes—one marked "SHEEP BALLOT" (Form LS-61-1) and the other marked "SHEEP REFERENDUM" (LS-62-1), by mail or in person from the county CES office in the county in which they reside or the county CES office that serves the county in which they reside, if individuals, or in which their main office is located, if a corporation or other entity. These forms and envelopes will be mailed by the county CES agent or designee to the address provided by the prospective voter. Only one absentee registration form and absentee ballot will be provided to each eligible producer, feeder, or importer. The forms must be requested during a specified time period which will be announced by the Secretary. The county CES office shall enter on the absentee voter request list (Form LS-62-2) the name, address and entity requesting an absentee ballot and the date the forms were requested. A copy of the applicable absentee voter request list (Form LS-62-2) prepared by the county CES office shall be provided to each CFSA county office for absentee voter verification.

(2) To register, eligible producers, feeders, and importers must complete and sign the combined registration form