

**34-251. Inspection of warehouses; procedures; access; scale tests; confidentiality of certain information, exception; penalty for disclosure.** (a) All persons owning property, or who may be interested in the same, in any public warehouse and all duly authorized examiners of such property shall be at full liberty to inspect and to examine any and all property stored in any public warehouse in the state at all times during regular business hours. All proper facilities shall be extended to such persons by the public warehouseman and the warehouseman's agents and employees for such examinations and inspection. The secretary shall inspect, or cause to be inspected by a duly authorized examiner, every warehouse, the business thereof and the mode of conducting the same at such times as the secretary deems necessary. The property, books, records, accounts, papers and proceedings kept at such warehouses, so far as they relate to the operation or management of public storage, which have reference only to the quantity, quality and insurance on grain in storage, shall be subject to examination and inspection of the secretary or the secretary's duly authorized examiner at all times during regular business hours. All scales or weighing or measuring devices used for weighing or measuring of property in public warehouses shall be subject to tests by any duly authorized inspector or weighmaster or by the secretary or the secretary's authorized representative at any time when required by any such officer, or by any person or agent whose property has been or is to be weighed on such scales.

(b) Any public warehouseman who uses scales for grain weighing that have been found on inspection to be inaccurate and that have not been pronounced correct and properly sealed shall be liable to be proceeded against as hereinafter provided.

(c) No inspector or employee of the department shall disclose any information obtained by such inspector or employee in the course of employment which is relative to the affairs or transactions of any warehouseman, other than as permitted by this act, without first having obtained the express permission in writing of such warehouseman or of the secretary, except when ordered to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction. Upon application of any person, the secretary may disclose or direct any inspector or employee of the department to disclose any information which, in the opinion of the secretary, the person making the application is entitled to receive. If any inspector or employee discloses any such information except as permitted by this act, the inspector or employee shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

**History:** L. 1931, ch. 194, § 29; L. 1984, ch. 150, § 12; L. 1990, ch. 364, § 5; L. 1997, ch. 160, § 31; Sept. 1.