

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

As Engrossed: S4/7/25

A Bill

SENATE BILL 563

5 By: Senator Irvin
6 *By: Representative Cavenaugh*
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING EQUINE WELFARE; TO
10 AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY
11 COMMISSION TO IMPOSE A CIVIL PENALTY FOR CERTAIN
12 ACTIONS AGAINST AN EQUINE; TO ALLOW A BODY CONDITION
13 SCORE TO BE USED TO DETERMINE IF ADEQUATE FOOD AND
14 WATER HAS BEEN SUPPLIED TO AN EQUINE UNDER THE
15 OFFENSE OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS; AND FOR OTHER
16 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

19 TO AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK AND
20 POULTRY COMMISSION TO IMPOSE A CIVIL
21 PENALTY FOR CERTAIN ACTIONS AGAINST AN
22 EQUINE; AND TO ALLOW A BODY CONDITION
23 SCORE TO BE USED FOR AN EQUINE UNDER THE
24 OFFENSE OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.
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27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 2, Chapter 33, Subchapter 1, is amended
30 to add an additional section to read as follows:

31 2-33-117. Equine welfare – Penalties.

32 A person who commits the offense of cruelty to animals under § 5-62-
33 103(a)(4) against an equine is subject to civil penalties imposed by the
34 Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission not to exceed five thousand dollars
35 (\$5,000) per violation.
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1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 5-62-103(a)(4), concerning the failure to
2 supply an animal with sufficient food and water under the offense of cruelty
3 to animals, is amended to read as follows:

4 (4)(A) Fails to supply an animal in his or her custody with a
5 sufficient quantity of wholesome food and water~~+~~.

6 (B) To determine if adequate food and water have been
7 supplied for an equine under subdivision (a)(4)(A) of this section, a body
8 condition score conducted by a licensed veterinarian may be used;

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10 /s/Irvin

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13 **APPROVED: 4/17/25**
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