

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

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 563

5 By: Senator Irvin  
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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.

## Subtitle

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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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