

**HORSE TRIPPING AMENDMENTS**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Ken Ivory**

Senate Sponsor: Alvin B. Jackson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill deals with horse tripping.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ modifies the duties of the Agricultural Advisory Board;
- ▶ requires a venue that holds a horse event to report certain information to the Department of Agriculture and Food;
- ▶ authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Food, in consultation with Agricultural Advisory Board, to make rules;
- ▶ requires a report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**4-2-7**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 461

ENACTS:

**4-2-501**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

- 30 4-2-502, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 31 4-2-503, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 32 4-2-504, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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34 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

35 Section 1. Section 4-2-7 is amended to read:

36 **4-2-7. Agricultural Advisory Board created -- Composition -- Responsibility --**

37 **Terms of office -- Compensation.**

38 (1) There is created the Agricultural Advisory Board composed of 16 members, with  
39 each member representing one of the following:

- 40 (a) Utah Farm Bureau Federation;
- 41 (b) Utah Farmers Union;
- 42 (c) Utah Cattlemen's Association;
- 43 (d) Utah Wool Growers' Association;
- 44 (e) Utah Dairymen's Association;
- 45 (f) Utah Pork Producer's Association;
- 46 (g) egg and poultry producers;
- 47 (h) Utah Veterinary Medical Association;
- 48 (i) Livestock Auction Marketing Association;
- 49 (j) Utah Association of Conservation Districts;
- 50 (k) the Utah horse industry;
- 51 (l) the food processing industry;
- 52 (m) the fruit and vegetable industry;
- 53 (n) the turkey industry;
- 54 (o) manufacturers of food supplements; and
- 55 (p) a consumer affairs group.

56 (2) (a) The Agricultural Advisory Board shall advise the commissioner regarding:

57 [~~a~~] (i) the planning, implementation, and administration of the department's

58 programs; and

59       ~~[(b)]~~ (ii) the establishment of standards governing the care of livestock and poultry,  
60 including consideration of:

61       ~~[(i)]~~ (A) food safety;

62       ~~[(ii)]~~ (B) local availability and affordability of food; and

63       ~~[(iii)]~~ (C) acceptable practices for livestock and farm management.

64       (b) The Agricultural Advisory Board shall fulfill the duties described in Title 4,  
65 Chapter 2, Part 5, Horse Tripping Awareness.

66       (3) (a) Except as required by Subsection (3)(c), members are appointed by the  
67 commissioner to four-year terms of office.

68       (b) The commissioner shall appoint representatives of the organizations cited in  
69 Subsections (1)(a) through (h) to the Agricultural Advisory Board from a list of nominees  
70 submitted by each organization.

71       (c) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (3)(a), the commissioner shall, at  
72 the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of  
73 board members are staggered so that approximately half of the board is appointed every two  
74 years.

75       (d) Members may be removed at the discretion of the commissioner upon the request  
76 of the group they represent.

77       (e) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be  
78 appointed for the unexpired term.

79       (4) The board shall elect one member to serve as chair of the Agricultural Advisory  
80 Board for a term of one year.

81       (5) (a) The board shall meet four times annually, but may meet more often at the  
82 discretion of the chair.

83       (b) Attendance of nine members at a duly called meeting constitutes a quorum for the  
84 transaction of official business.

85       (6) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but

86 may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

87 (a) Section 63A-3-106;

88 (b) Section 63A-3-107; and

89 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and

90 63A-3-107.

91 Section 2. Section 4-2-501 is enacted to read:

92 **Part 5. Horse Tripping Awareness**

93 **4-2-501. Title.**

94 This part is known as "Horse Tripping Awareness."

95 Section 3. Section 4-2-502 is enacted to read:

96 **4-2-502. Definitions.**

97 As used in this part:

98 (1) "Board" means the Agricultural Advisory Board created in Section 4-2-7.

99 (2) "Horse event" means an event in which horses are roped or tripped for the purpose

100 of a specific event or contest.

101 (3) (a) "Horse tripping" means the lassoing or roping of the legs of an equine, or  
102 otherwise tripping or causing an equine to fall by any means, for the purpose of entertainment,  
103 sport, or contest, or practice for entertainment, sport, or contest.

104 (b) "Horse tripping" does not include accepted animal husbandry practices, customary  
105 farming practices, or commonly accepted practices occurring in conjunction with a sanctioned  
106 rodeo, animal race, or pulling contest.

107 Section 4. Section 4-2-503 is enacted to read:

108 **4-2-503. Event reporting requirements.**

109 (1) The owner of a venue holding a horse event shall:

110 (a) at least 30 days before the day on which the horse event is to be held, notify the  
111 board of the date, time, and name of the horse event; and

112 (b) no later than 30 days after the day on which the horse event is held, notify the board  
113 of:

- 114 (i) the number and type of competitions held at the horse event;
- 115 (ii) the number of horses used;
- 116 (iii) whether horse tripping occurred, and if so how many horses were used in horse
- 117 tripping and how many times each horse was tripped; and
- 118 (iv) whether a veterinarian was called during the horse event, and if so:
- 119 (A) the name and contact information of the veterinarian;
- 120 (B) the outcome of the veterinarian's examination of a horse; and
- 121 (C) all veterinarian charges incurred.
- 122 (2) (a) The department shall compile all reports received pursuant to Subsection (1)
- 123 and provide the information to the board.
- 124 (b) The board shall, at a meeting described in Subsection 4-2-7(5)(a):
- 125 (i) review the information described in Subsection (2)(a); and
- 126 (ii) if necessary, make recommendations for rules or legislation designed to prohibit
- 127 horse tripping.
- 128 (3) The department shall fine the owner of a venue that fails to fulfill the duties
- 129 described in Subsection (1) \$500 per violation.
- 130 (4) The department, in consultation with the board, shall make rules in accordance with
- 131 Title 63, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, as necessary to enforce this part.
- 132 Section 5. Section **4-2-504** is enacted to read:
- 133 **4-2-504. Horse tripping education -- Reporting requirements.**
- 134 (1) The department, in conjunction with the board, shall:
- 135 (a) send a letter, annually, to venues that host horse events:
- 136 (i) outlining the reporting requirements of Section 4-2-503; and
- 137 (ii) providing educational information on the negative effects of horse tripping; and
- 138 (b) promote, as funding allows, policies regarding the safety and welfare of horses
- 139 involved in horse events, such as horse roping and horse tripping.
- 140 (2) The department and the board shall, by November 30, 2015, report to the Natural
- 141 Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee about:

- 142           (a) reported incidents of horse tripping;
- 143           (b) any recommendations made by the board pursuant to Subsection [4-2-503\(2\)\(b\)](#); and
- 144           (c) the progress made in educating the public under Subsection (1).