

LIVESTOCK HARASSMENT

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Scott H. Chew

Senate Sponsor: Don L. Ipson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill prohibits the harassment of livestock.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▶ prohibits a person from intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly chasing, actively disturbing, or harming livestock through the use of:

- a motorized vehicle or all-terrain vehicle;
- a dog; or
- an unmanned aircraft system; and

▶ describes the penalties for violating the prohibition on harassment of livestock.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

76-9-308, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **76-9-308** is enacted to read:

76-9-308. Harassment of livestock.

(1) As used in this section:

30 (a) "Livestock" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Subsection 76-9-301(1).

31 (b) "Unmanned aircraft system" has the same meaning as that term is defined in
32 Subsection 63G-18-102(5)(a).

33 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), a person is guilty of harassment of livestock if
34 the person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly chases, with the intent of causing distress, or
35 harms livestock through the use of:

36 (a) a motorized vehicle or all-terrain vehicle;

37 (b) a dog; or

38 (c) an unmanned aircraft system.

39 (3) A person is not guilty of harassment of livestock if:

40 (a) the person is:

41 (i) the owner of the livestock;

42 (ii) an employee or agent of the owner, or otherwise acting under the owner's general
43 direction or with the owner's permission;

44 (iii) acting in an emergency situation to prevent damage to the livestock or property; or

45 (iv) an employee or agent of the state or a political subdivision and acting in the
46 employee or agent's official capacity; or

47 (b) the action is in line with generally accepted animal husbandry practices.

48 (4) A person who violates this section is guilty of:

49 (a) a class B misdemeanor if the violation is a first offense and:

50 (i) no livestock is seriously injured or killed as a result of the person's actions; or

51 (ii) the person's actions cause the livestock to be displaced onto property where the
52 livestock is not legally entitled to be; and

53 (b) a class A misdemeanor if:

54 (i) the person has previously been convicted of harassment of livestock under this
55 section;

56 (ii) livestock is seriously injured or killed as a result of the person's actions; or

57 (iii) livestock or property suffered damage in excess of \$1,000, including money spent

58 in recovering the livestock, as a result of the person's actions.