

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.  
Act 741 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: S4/7/25

## A Bill

SENATE BILL 563

By: Senator Irvin

By: Representative Cavenaugh

### For An Act To Be Entitled

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

### Subtitle

TO AUTHORIZE THE ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY COMMISSION TO IMPOSE A CIVIL PENALTY FOR CERTAIN ACTIONS AGAINST AN EQUINE; AND TO ALLOW A BODY CONDITION SCORE TO BE USED FOR AN EQUINE UNDER THE OFFENSE OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 2, Chapter 33, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

2-33-117. Equine welfare – Penalties.

A person who commits the offense of cruelty to animals under § 5-62-103(a)(4) against an equine is subject to civil penalties imposed by the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per violation.



SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 5-62-103(a)(4), concerning the failure to supply an animal with sufficient food and water under the offense of cruelty to animals, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

*/s/Irvin*

**APPROVED: 4/17/25**