

ENROLLED BILL

-- *Environmental Matters/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs* --

Introduced by **Delegates Jennings, V. Clagett, Cluster, Frush, Glassman, Hogan, and Mayer**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Agriculture - Improper Transport of Horses - Prohibitions**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from transporting a horse in a vehicle that is
4 not constructed in a manner that at all times protects the health and well-being
5 of the horse being transported; establishing certain criteria for finding that a
6 vehicle is suitable for transporting a horse; providing a civil penalty for
7 transporting a horse in violation of this Act; defining certain terms; and
8 generally relating to the improper transport of horses.

9 BY adding to
10 Article - Agriculture
11 Section 3-901 through ~~3-904~~ 3-903, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle
12 "Subtitle 9. Transporting Horses"
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
2 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 **Article - Agriculture**

4 **SUBTITLE 9. TRANSPORTING HORSES.**

5 3-901.

6 IN THIS SUBTITLE, "TRANSPORT" MEANS TO CARRY A HORSE, CAUSE A HORSE
7 TO BE CARRIED, OR ALLOW A HORSE TO BE CARRIED IN A VEHICLE ON A HIGHWAY IN
8 THE STATE.

9 3-902.

10 (A) A PERSON MAY NOT TRANSPORT A HORSE IN A VEHICLE THAT IS NOT
11 DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED IN A MANNER THAT AT ALL TIMES PROTECTS THE
12 HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE HORSE BEING TRANSPORTED.

13 (B) TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, AT A
14 MINIMUM, A VEHICLE USED TO TRANSPORT A HORSE SHALL:

15 (1) BE LIMITED TO ONE LEVEL THROUGHOUT THE VEHICLE WHERE
16 ANIMALS ARE CONFINED;

17 (2) HAVE AN INTERIOR HEIGHT SUFFICIENT TO ALLOW EACH HORSE
18 BEING TRANSPORTED TO STAND WITH ITS HEAD EXTENDED TO THE FULLEST
19 NORMAL UPRIGHT POSITION WITHOUT MAKING CONTACT WITH THE ROOF OR AN
20 OVERHEAD STRUCTURE;

21 ~~(3) BE SPECIFICALLY MANUFACTURED FOR THE TRANSPORT OF~~
22 ~~HORSES;~~

23 ~~(4)~~ (3) HAVE DOORWAY HEIGHTS AND WIDTHS THAT ALLOW A HORSE
24 TO PASS THROUGH WITHOUT TOUCHING THE SIDES OF THE OPENINGS;

25 ~~(5)~~ (4) BE EQUIPPED WITH RAMPS IF THE VERTICAL DISTANCE FROM
26 THE FLOOR TO THE COMPARTMENT CONTAINING THE HORSE IS GREATER THAN 15
27 INCHES;

28 ~~(6)~~ (5) IF THE VEHICLE IS EQUIPPED WITH RAMPS THAT SIT AT
29 GREATER THAN A 25 DEGREE ANGLE, HAVE RAMPS EQUIPPED WITH ANTISKID
30 FLOORING AND RAILS; AND

31 ~~(7)~~ (6) CONTAIN ADEQUATE SPACE TO ENSURE THAT NO HORSE IS
32 CROWDED IN A WAY THAT IS LIKELY TO CAUSE INJURY.

1 3-903.

2 INSTEAD OF ANY OTHER PENALTY AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS ARTICLE, A
3 PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SUBTITLE IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF:

4 (1) FOR A FIRST VIOLATION, \$500 FOR EACH HORSE BEING
5 TRANSPORTED; AND

6 (2) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION, \$1,000 FOR EACH HORSE
7 BEING TRANSPORTED.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2006.