

CHAPTER 699

(House Bill 955)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Horse Industry Board – Equine Activities

FOR the purpose of providing that certain activities are not subject to certain provisions of law relating to the Maryland Horse Industry Board; requiring that equine activities be treated as agricultural activities for the purposes of certain provisions of law; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Maryland Horse Industry Board and equine activities.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Agriculture
Section 2–701 and 2–702
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2007 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Agriculture
Section 2–702.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2007 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

Article – Agriculture

2–701.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) “Board” means the Maryland Horse Industry Board.
- (c) “Boarding stable” means an establishment that stables five or more horses and receives compensation for these services.
- (d) **“EQUINE ACTIVITIES” INCLUDES TEACHING EQUESTRIAN SKILLS, PARTICIPATING IN EQUESTRIAN COMPETITIONS, EXHIBITIONS OR OTHER DISPLAYS OF EQUESTRIAN SKILLS, AND CARING FOR, BREEDING, BOARDING, RENTING, RIDING, OR TRAINING HORSES.**

(E) "Equine dealer, breeding stables, or rescue stables" includes an establishment in which five or more horses are sold or transferred each year.

[(e)] (F) "Horse" includes horses and ponies.

[(f)] (G) (1) "Horse riding and rental stables" means an establishment in connection with which one or more horses are let for hire to be ridden or driven, either with or without the furnishing of riding or driving instruction.

(2) "Horse riding and rental stables" includes:

- (i) Boarding stables;
- (ii) Equine dealer, breeding stables, or rescue stables; and
- (iii) Sales barns.

[(g)] (H) "Sales barns" includes an establishment where horses are sold.

2-702.

[Horse] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 2-702.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, HORSE racing and standardbred stables [and] OR farms using horses for [agricultural purposes] WORKING OR CULTIVATING THE SOIL OR HERDING OR CUTTING LIVESTOCK** are not subject to the provisions of this subtitle.

2-702.1.

EQUINE ACTIVITIES SHALL BE TREATED AS AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ~~ARTICLE~~ SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2009.