

HOUSE BILL 171

E1

0lr1085
CF 0lr1083

By: **Delegates Guyton, Bagnall, Boyce, Buckel, Hornberger, Lehman, R. Lewis, Metzgar, Morgan, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2020

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes Against Animals – Interference With Livestock**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the scope of a certain prohibition against interfering with,
4 injuring, tampering with, or destroying a horse used for a certain purpose to prohibit
5 a person from interfering with, injuring, tampering with, or destroying livestock used
6 for a certain purpose or for any other lawful activity; defining a certain term; and
7 generally relating to crimes against animals.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Agriculture
10 Section 3–301(a) and (b)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Criminal Law
15 Section 10–620
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Agriculture**

21 3–301.

22 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

23 (b) “Livestock” means cattle, swine, sheep, horses, asses, mules, or goats

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



notwithstanding any other provision of this article.

Article – Criminal Law

10–620.

(a) IN THIS SECTION, “LIVESTOCK” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 3–301 OF THE AGRICULTURE ARTICLE.

(B) A person may not:

(1) willfully and maliciously interfere with, injure, destroy, or tamper with [a horse] LIVESTOCK used for:

(I) racing or breeding [or for];

(II) a competitive exhibition of skill, breed, or stamina; OR

(III) ANY OTHER LAWFUL ACTIVITY;

(2) willfully start, instigate, engage in, or further an act that interferes with, injures, destroys, or tampers with [a horse] LIVESTOCK used for:

(I) racing or breeding [or for];

(II) a competitive exhibition of skill, breed, or stamina; OR

(III) ANY OTHER LAWFUL ACTIVITY; or

(3) commit an act that tends to interfere with, injure, destroy, or tamper with [a horse] LIVESTOCK used for:

(I) racing or breeding [or for];

(II) a competitive exhibition of skill, breed, or stamina; OR

(III) ANY OTHER LAWFUL ACTIVITY.

[(b)] (C) A person who violates this section is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to imprisonment of not less than 1 year and not exceeding 3 years.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.