

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1380

H. P. 1138

House of Representatives, March 30, 1977

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Talbot of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Concerning Equine Infectious Anemia.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA § 1819, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 74, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA § 1820 is enacted to read:

§ 1820. Equine infectious anemia

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

A. The Coggins test is the agar gel immuno diffusion test of equine infectious anemia;

B. A horse is any member of the family equidae; and

C. To quarantine is to confine to a stable or pasture whose boundaries are no closer than 200 yards from a stable or pasture of horses which have not been tested by the Coggins test or which have been tested by the Coggins test with negative results.

2. Powers of commissioner. When it comes to the attention of the Commissioner of Agriculture that a horse has been tested by the Coggins test with positive results, he shall order that horse quarantined until a veterinarian certifies that the horse is free from clinical symptoms of equine infectious anemia. The commissioner may require any horse exhibiting the symptoms of equine infectious anemia to submit to a Coggins test.

3. Freeze branding prohibited in certain cases. Any horse which has been tested by the Coggins test with positive results but which a veterinarian has

certified to be free from the clinical symptoms of equine infectious anemia shall not be freeze branded or otherwise permanently identified or disfigured.

4. Screening test prohibited. The commissioner shall not use the Coggins test as a screening test on any horse or group of horses.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill prohibits the use of the Coggins test as a screening test for equine infectious anemia, provides that any horse which tests positive by the Coggins test shall be quarantined until it is certified by a veterinarian to be free from clinical symptoms of that disease, authorizes the Commissioner of Agriculture to require a Coggins test for any horse which exhibits clinical symptoms of equine infectious anemia, and prohibits the freeze branding of any horse tested by the Coggins test with positive results which is certified by a veterinarian to be free of clinical symptoms of equine infectious anemia.