

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

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Legislative Document

No. 709

H.P. 524

House of Representatives, March 8, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative DELLERT of Gardiner.

Cosponsored by Representative WHITCOMB of Waldo and Senator EMERSON of Penobscot.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

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An Act Regarding Oxen, Ponies and Draft Horses in Competitions.

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

3 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §75, sub-§2, ¶G,** as enacted by PL 1987, c. 849,  
5 §2, is amended to read:

7 G. On horses, the very light use of the reins on the hind  
9 quarters only and no over and under may be allowed. No  
11 whip, brads or goads may be allowed. Reins shall not be  
13 doubled up. No electrical or electronic devices may be  
allowed. No open bridles may be allowed. Ponies shall not  
be struck except in a sweepstakes when they may be struck  
with a cap or bare open hand. On horses and ponies, all  
chains must be covered to the hook.

15 On oxen, the use of the goad shall be very light. The goad  
17 shall have no brad in it, only a plain yoke and chain or  
pole that may be pulled. All chains shall be covered to the  
19 hook. No plastic goads may be allowed. The goad stick must  
21 not be over 4 feet long and must not exceed 1/2 inch in  
23 diameter on the small end. The goad stick may be ~~taped with  
friction-tape-but~~ not be weighted. ~~The stick may be used  
lightly on the face to control the oxen-but-not-around-the  
eyes.~~

25 All harness equipment must be in good condition. Harness  
27 equipment may not be held together with nails, twine or wire.

29 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §75, sub-§2, ¶P,** as enacted by PL 1987, c. 849,  
§2, is amended to read:

31 P. Any animal which is thin, dehydrated, lame, shows open  
33 sores or ~~is-lame~~ palpable welts shall be disqualified.

35 **Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §75, sub-§2, ¶¶R to V** are enacted to read:

37 R. Blankets may not be used for weight reduction on the  
fairgrounds.

39 S. A person convicted of cruelty to animals shall be  
41 prohibited from participating in private or state-sponsored  
pulling events for 5 years. That person's animals may not  
43 be entered in these events for 2 years.

45 T. If an animal falls to one or both knees during a pulling  
47 event, the clock shall be stopped while the animal is  
examined for injury by the pull superintendent or a  
veterinarian.

49 U. No animal may be struck in the face with a goad stick or  
51 other implement.

53 V. No tape may be allowed on goad sticks.

