



Home	Bill Information	California Law	Publications	Other Resources	My Subscriptions	My Favorites
------	------------------	----------------	--------------	-----------------	------------------	--------------

Code: Section:

[Up^](#) [Add To My Favorites](#)

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE - HSC

DIVISION 20. MISCELLANEOUS HEALTH AND SAFETY PROVISIONS [24000 - 27007] (*Division 20 enacted by Stats. 1939, Ch. 60.*)

CHAPTER 13.5. Horses and Other Equine Animals [25988 - 25988.5] (*Chapter 13.5 added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 757, Sec. 1.*)

25988. A peace officer, officer of a humane society as qualified under Section 14502 or 14503 of the Corporations Code, or officer of an animal control or animal regulation department of a public agency, as qualified under Section 830.9 of the Penal Code, may issue a citation as prescribed in Section 25988.5, to a person or entity keeping horses or other equine animals for hire, if the person or entity fails to meet any of the following standards of humane treatment regarding the keeping of horses or other equine animals:

- (a) Any enclosure where an equine is primarily kept shall be of sufficient size to enable the equine to comfortably stand up, turn around, and lie down, and shall be kept free of excessive urine and waste matter.
- (b) Paddocks and corrals shall be of adequate size for the equine to move about freely.
- (c) Buildings, premises, and conveyances used in conjunction with equines shall be kept free of sharp objects, protrusions, or other materials that are likely to cause injury.
- (d) Equines shall be supplied with nutritionally adequate feed and clean water, in accordance with standards in "A Guide: Minimum Standards of Horse Care in the State of California" published by the Center for Equine Health of the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of California, Davis.
- (e) Tack and equipment shall be appropriate and fit properly.
- (f) After use, the equine shall be cooled out to a normal condition at rest.
- (g) When not being ridden, a saddled equine shall have available adequate shelter from the elements and have loosened saddle straps and girths.
- (h) An equine shall not be available for hire or use if the equine has any conditions that violate subdivision (b) of Section 597 or Section 597.1 of the Penal Code or any of the following conditions:
 - (1) Sores or abrasions caused or likely to be irritated by the surfaces of saddles, girths, harnesses, or bridles.
 - (2) Blindness in both eyes.
 - (3) Improperly or inadequately trimmed and shod feet contrary to the standards regarding hoof care included in "A Guide: Minimum Standards of Horse Care in the State of California" published by the Center for Equine Health of the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of California, Davis.
- (i) Each equine shall be individually identified through the use of humane methods, such as a detailed description, including, but not limited to, name, breed, color, markings, size, age, sex, and photograph.
- (j) Farrier and veterinary receipts shall be kept, and shall identify each equine treated.
- (k) Veterinary, farrier, and feed records shall be made available during normal business hours to the law enforcement officer. Upon failure to provide these records, the equine or equines in question may not be used for hire until the records are produced or an equine veterinarian certifies that the equine or equines are fit for labor.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 331, Sec. 2.5. (SB 787) Effective January 1, 2020.)

25988.5. (a) Citations issued pursuant to Section 25988 shall require the person cited to pay a civil penalty in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each violation, and one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day the violation continues.

(b) Any person who violates Section 25988 may be prosecuted by the district attorney of the county in which the violation occurred or the city attorney of the city in which the violation occurred.

(Amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 747, Sec. 5.)