

SENATE BILL 345

M4

2lr0627
CF HB 116

By: **Senator Jennings**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Agriculture – Right to Engage in Equine Activities**

3 FOR the purpose of stating the findings of the General Assembly relating to equine
4 activities; declaring the intent of the General Assembly that residents of the State
5 have a right to engage in equine activities subject to regulations and restrictions
6 under laws enacted by the General Assembly; and generally relating to the right to
7 engage in equine activities.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Agriculture

10 Section 2–702.2

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Agriculture**

16 **2–702.2.**

17 **(A) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:**

18 **(1) EQUINE ACTIVITIES ARE A VALUED PART OF THE STATE’S**
19 **HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND SOCIAL HERITAGE THAT PROVIDE UNIQUE**
20 **RECREATIONAL BENEFITS TO RESIDENTS OF THE STATE; AND**

21 **(2) EQUINE ACTIVITIES PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE STATE’S**
22 **ECONOMY BY CONTRIBUTING TO LOCAL ECONOMIES, TAX REVENUES, AND**
23 **EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT THE CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 MANAGEMENT OF THE STATE'S OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL RESOURCES USING
2 PRIMARILY PRIVATE DOLLARS.

3 (B) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT RESIDENTS OF THE
4 STATE HAVE A RIGHT TO ENGAGE IN EQUINE ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS
5 AND RESTRICTIONS UNDER LAWS ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2022.