

By Senator Crist

12-01465-10

20101708

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the unlawful slaughter of horses;
3 amending s. 500.451, F.S.; prohibiting specified acts
4 relating to horsemeat for human consumption; providing
5 penalties; increasing the classification of offenses
6 relating to horsemeat for human consumption; providing
7 for suspension of licenses of certain businesses for
8 offenses relating to horsemeat; providing mandatory
9 minimum penalties; amending s. 828.125, F.S.; revising
10 provisions prohibiting certain acts relating to horses
11 to apply to all horses regardless of breed; providing
12 mandatory minimum penalties; providing an effective
13 date.

14
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16
17 Section 1. Section 500.451, Florida Statutes, is amended to
18 read:

19 500.451 Horse meat; offenses ~~sale for human consumption.~~

20 (1) It is unlawful for any person to:

21 (a) Sell in the markets of this state horse meat for human
22 consumption unless the horse meat is clearly stamped, marked,
23 and described as horse meat for human consumption.

24 (b) Knowingly transport, distribute, sell, purchase, or
25 possess horsemeat for human consumption which is not clearly
26 stamped, marked, and described as horsemeat for human
27 consumption or horsemeat that is not acquired from a licensed
28 slaughterhouse.

29 (2) A person that violates this section commits ~~is guilty~~

12-01465-10

20101708

30 of a felony ~~misdemeanor~~ of the third ~~second~~ degree, punishable
31 as provided in s. 775.082, ~~or~~ s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, except
32 that any person who commits a violation of this section shall be
33 sentenced to a minimum mandatory fine of \$3,500 and a minimum
34 mandatory period of incarceration of 1 year.

35 (3) In addition to any penalties provided in subsection
36 (2), any license of any restaurant, store, or other business may
37 be suspended as provided in the applicable licensing law upon
38 conviction of an owner or employee of that business for a
39 violation of this section in connection with that business.

40 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 828.125, Florida
41 Statutes, is amended to read:

42 828.125 Killing or aggravated abuse of ~~registered breed~~
43 horses or cattle; offenses; penalties.—Any other provisions of
44 this chapter to the contrary notwithstanding:

45 (1) Any person who willfully and unlawfully, by any means
46 whatsoever, kills, maims, mutilates, or causes great bodily harm
47 or permanent breeding disability to any animal of the genus
48 Equus (horse) or any animal of any registered breed or
49 recognized registered hybrid of the genus ~~Equus (horse) or genus~~
50 ~~Bos (cattle) commits, or any recognized registered hybrid of the~~
51 ~~specified genera, shall be guilty of a felony of the second~~
52 ~~degree, punishable as provided by s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s.~~
53 ~~775.084, except that any person who commits a violation of this~~
54 ~~subsection shall be sentenced to a minimum mandatory fine of~~
55 ~~\$3,500 and a minimum mandatory period of incarceration of 1~~
56 ~~year.~~

57 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2010.