



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 782

S.P. 226

In Senate, February 12, 2019

An Act Relating to Animals in Pulling Events

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CARPENTER of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative McCREA of Fort Fairfield and
Senators: DILL of Penobscot, ROSEN of Hancock, Representatives: DOORE of Augusta,
HICKMAN of Winthrop, JOHANSEN of Monticello, MAREAN of Hollis.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §97, sub-§4, ¶S** is enacted to read:

3 S. A person handling or responsible for an animal may not use on the animal any
4 technique, force or method of preparing the animal for pulling that subjects the
5 animal to pain, fear or undue stress, including but not limited to electric shock,
6 physical punishment or artificial sweating to achieve weight.

7 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §101, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

8 **4. Pulling event participation banned.** A person who engages in the activity
9 described in section 97, subsection 4, paragraph S may not participate as an animal owner
10 or handler or in any other capacity, directly or indirectly, in a pulling event for a period of
11 one year for the first offense and is subject to a lifetime ban from pulling events for a 2nd
12 offense.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 This bill prohibits a person handling or responsible for an animal in a pulling event
15 from using on the animal any technique, force or method of preparing the animal for
16 pulling that subjects the animal to pain, fear or undue stress, including but not limited to
17 electric shock, physical punishment or artificial sweating to achieve weight. A person
18 who engages in that activity is banned from participating in pulling events for one year
19 for the first offense and permanently for a 2nd offense.