

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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Action: Do Pass  
Vote: 4 - 0 - 2  
Yeas: Courtney, Hansell, Hass, Dingfelder  
Nays: 0  
Exc.: Bates, Olsen  
Prepared By: Beth Reiley, Administrator  
Meeting Dates: 4/8

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** States that conducting of or participation in rodeos is permitted in state. Prohibits treating rodeos less favorably than other organized exhibitions or events. Establishes person commits offense of equine tripping if person intentionally causes equine to trip or fall; intentionally ropes or lassos legs of equine for purposes of rodeo, contest, exhibition, entertainment or sport (events); or as practice for events. Makes violation of equine tripping class B misdemeanor subject to maximum fine of six months imprisonment, \$2,500 fine or both.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Horse tripping events are not allowed at rodeos sponsored by Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association
- Cultural significance of rodeos
- Practice of roping front legs of horse on ranches in order to immobilize and administer medical care
- Economic impact of rodeos on rural communities

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Rodeo is a competitive sport which arose out of the working practices of cattle herding. Today's rodeos consist of events that involve horses and other livestock, designed to test the skill and speed of the human cowboy and cowgirl athletes who participate. At least seven states have prohibited horse tripping events at rodeos. Senate Bills 835 prohibits state law from being applied in a manner that affords the conducting or participation in rodeos less favorable treatment than for other organized exhibitions. The Act also establishes that a person commits a class B misdemeanor if they intentionally rope or lasso the legs of a horse causing it to trip or fall for the purpose of a rodeo or other entertainment event.