

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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**Action:** Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Rules

**Vote:** 8 - 1 - 0

**Yeas:** Barton, Cameron, Garrett, Krieger, Olson, Tomei, Williamson, Barker

**Nays:** Hicks

**Exc.:** 0

**Prepared By:** Anna Braun, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 5/8, 5/13, 5/30

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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 or intentionally ropes or lassos legs of equine for purposes of rodeo, contest, exhibition, entertainment or sport or as practice for events. Makes violation of equine tripping Class B misdemeanor subject to maximum fine of \$2,500 or six months imprisonment, or both.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Lengthy public testimony
- Rodeo heritage
- Protection of horses

**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 Bill 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. Senate Bill 835 also establishes that a person commits a Class B misdemeanor if they intentionally rope or lasso the legs of a horse or intentionally causes an equine to trip or fall for the purpose of a rodeo or other entertainment event.