**South Carolina General Assembly**

119th Session, 2011-2012

**A142, R160, H4475**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Young, Clyburn, Taylor, Hixon, Frye, Southard, Clemmons and Hardwick

Document Path: l:\council\bills\ms\7647ahb12.docx

Companion/Similar bill(s): 1245

Introduced in the House on January 10, 2012

Introduced in the Senate on January 31, 2012

Last Amended on January 26, 2012

Passed by the General Assembly on March 14, 2012

Governor's Action: April 2, 2012, Signed

Summary: Equine Liability Immunity

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

11/29/2011 House Prefiled

11/29/2011 House Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs**

1/10/2012 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 53](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-10-12.docx))

1/10/2012 House Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 53](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-10-12.docx))

1/18/2012 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Taylor, Hardwick

1/19/2012 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hixon, Frye, Southard

1/25/2012 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 2](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-25-12.docx))

1/26/2012 House Amended ([House Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-26-12.docx))

1/26/2012 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-26-12.docx))

1/26/2012 House Roll call Yeas‑105 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 17](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-26-12.docx))

1/26/2012 House Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day ([House Journal‑page 18](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-26-12.docx))

1/26/2012 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Clemmons

1/27/2012 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 1](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\01-27-12.docx))

1/27/2012 Scrivener's error corrected

1/31/2012 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\01-31-12.docx))

1/31/2012 Senate Referred to Committee on **Agriculture and Natural Resources** ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\01-31-12.docx))

2/22/2012 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Agriculture and Natural Resources** ([Senate Journal‑page 20](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\02-22-12.docx))

3/7/2012 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 21](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\03-07-12.docx))

3/7/2012 Senate Roll call Ayes‑42 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 21](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\03-07-12.docx))

3/14/2012 Senate Read third time and enrolled ([Senate Journal‑page 20](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\03-14-12.docx))

3/29/2012 Ratified R 160

4/2/2012 Signed By Governor

4/5/2012 Effective date 04/02/12

4/11/2012 Act No. 142

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[11/29/2011](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4475_20111129.docx)

[1/25/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4475_20120125.docx)

[1/26/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4475_20120126.docx)

[1/27/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4475_20120127.docx)

[2/22/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\4475_20120222.docx)

(A142, R160, H4475)

**AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47‑9‑710, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS FOR PURPOSES OF EQUINE LIABILITY IMMUNITY, SO AS TO REVISE THE DEFINITIONS OF “EQUINE ACTIVITY” AND “EQUINE ACTIVITY SPONSOR”; AND TO AMEND SECTION 47‑9‑730, RELATING TO WARNING SIGNS REQUIRED TO BE POSTED BY EQUINE PROFESSIONALS AND EQUINE ACTIVITY SPONSORS, SO AS TO INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT THAT WARNING SIGNS ARE TO BE POSTED AT THE PRIMARY ENTRANCE TO RIDING TRAILS.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Equine liability immunity, definition of “equine activity”**

SECTION 1. Section 47‑9‑710(3)(a) of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 182 of 1993, is amended to read:

“(3) ‘Equine activity’ means:

(a) an equine show, fair, competition, performance, parade, or trail riding that involves a breed of equine and an equine discipline, including, but not limited to, dressage, hunter and jumper horse shows, grand prix jumping, three‑day events, combined training, rodeos, driving, pulling, cutting, polo, steeplechasing, English and Western performance riding, trail riding and Western games, and hunting.”

**Equine liability immunity, definition of “equine activity sponsor”**

SECTION 2. Section 47‑9‑710(4) of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 182 of 1993, is amended to read:

“(4) ‘Equine activity sponsor’ means an individual, a group, a club, a partnership, or a corporation, whether the sponsor is operating for profit or nonprofit, which sponsors, organizes, or provides the facilities for an equine activity, including, but not limited to, a pony club, 4‑H club, hunt club, riding club, school and college‑sponsored class, program, and activity, therapeutic riding program, and an operator, instructor, and promoter of an equine facility, including, but not limited to, a stable, clubhouse, ponyride string, fair, and an arena at which the activity is held or a landowner who has given permission for the use of his land in an equine activity either by easement or other means.”

**Equine liability immunity, warning signs at entrance to riding trails**

SECTION 3. Section 47‑9‑730(A) of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 182 of 1993, is amended to read:

“(A) An equine professional and an equine activity sponsor shall post and maintain signs which contain the warning notice specified in subsection (B). These signs must be placed in a clearly visible location on or near stables, corrals, or arenas where the equine professional or the equine activity sponsor conducts equine activities or once at the primary entrance to any riding trail maintained or operated by the activity sponsor. The warning notice specified in subsection (B) must appear on the sign in black letters with each letter a minimum of one inch in height. A written contract entered into by an equine professional or by an equine activity sponsor to provide professional services, instruction, or rental of equipment, tack, or an equine to a participant, whether or not the contract involves equine activities on or off the location or site of the business of the equine professional or the equine activity sponsor, must contain in clearly readable print the warning notice specified in subsection (B).”

**Time effective**

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 29th day of March, 2012.

Approved the 2nd day of April, 2012.

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