STATE OF NEW YORK

9041

IN SENATE

April 11, 2024

Introduced by Sen. HINCHEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to prohibiting the separation of a foal younger than four months of age from the mare

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new section 386 to read as follows:

§ 386. Separation of foals from mares. 1. For the purposes of this section, the term "abrupt weaning" means the process by which a foal is removed from the mare and moved to a location in which they will have no visual, audio or physical contact with the mare.

2. No person, corporation, association, or other entity shall begin an abrupt weaning process prior to the foal reaching four months of age for the purposes of sale of the foal or mare.

3. No person, corporation, association, or other entity shall purchase a foal if the foal is under four months of age or purchase a mare if the mare has given birth to a foal in the past four months.

4. No person, corporation, association, or other entity shall sell or offer for sale a foal or the mare of a foal if:

(a) the foal is not considered in good health by a licensed veterinarian and is not up to date with preventative healthcare as necessary;

(b) the foal has not received a deworming treatment for the purposes of removing any internal parasites; and

(c) the foal's sole source of nutrition is the milk from the mare.

5. No person, corporation, association, or other entity shall purchase or offer to purchase a foal or the mare of a foal if:

(a) the foal is not considered in good health by a licensed veterinarian and is not up to date with preventative healthcare as necessary;

(b) the foal has not received a deworming treatment for the purposes of removing any internal parasites; and

(c) the foal is not on an alternative food source other than the milk of the mare.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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6. A violation of this section shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars per horse for an individual person and up to two thousand five hundred dollars per horse for a corporation, association, or other entity, for the first violation. Any subsequent violation shall be punishable by a fine of up to two thousand dollars per horse for an individual person and up to five thousand dollars per horse for a corporation, association, or other entity.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.