

HOUSE BILL 349 WITNESS TESTIMONY

2018

Expanding House Bill 349 to include equine, offers hope to enhance the safety of the Search and Rescue Equestrian.

Violent attacks on SAR equine have a very high probability of serious injury and/or death to the equestrian counterpart. Injury occurs to the equestrian as the result of the equine falling onto the equestrian after it has been violently attacked. This is one of the reasons Horsemanship has been determined to be the most dangerous sport in the sports world. Some SAR equine can weigh more than twelve hundred pounds. Because of this, an equine falling onto a rider, as the result of a violent attack, can result in a multitude of traumatic injuries; the most serious, being paralysis or death.

By expanding House Bill 349 to include SAR Equine, it is hoped a deterrent to violent tendency and action toward equine will create a pre-stage for the safety of **Mounted** Search and Rescue personnel.

Respectfully submitted:

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