

tions may be taken before any person designated by the Secretary who has power to administer oaths. The Secretary may also require the production of books, papers, and documents at the taking of depositions.

(4) Witnesses whose depositions are taken and the persons taking them shall be entitled to the same fees as paid for like services in the courts of the United States or in other jurisdictions in which they may appear.

(5) In any civil or criminal action to enforce this chapter or any regulation under this chapter a horse shall be presumed to be a horse which is sore if it manifests abnormal sensitivity or inflammation in both of its forelimbs or both of its hindlimbs.

(6) The United States district courts, the District Court of Guam, the District Court of the Virgin Islands, the highest court of American Samoa, and the United States courts of the other territories, are vested with jurisdiction specifically to enforce, and to prevent and restrain violations of this chapter, and shall have jurisdiction in all other kinds of cases arising under this chapter, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

**(e) Detention of horses; seizure and condemnation of equipment**

(1) The Secretary may detain (for a period not to exceed twenty-four hours) for examination, testing, or the taking of evidence, any horse at any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction which is sore or which the Secretary has probable cause to believe is sore. The Secretary may require the temporary marking of any horse during the period of its detention for the purpose of identifying the horse as detained. A horse which is detained subject to this paragraph shall not be moved by any person from the place it is so detained except as authorized by the Secretary or until the expiration of the detention period applicable to the horse.

(2) Any equipment, device, paraphernalia, or substance which was used in violation of any provision of this chapter or any regulation issued under this chapter or which contributed to the soring of any horse at or prior to any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction, shall be liable to be proceeded against, by process of libel for the seizure and condemnation of such equipment, device, paraphernalia, or substance, in any United States district court within the jurisdiction of which such equipment, device, paraphernalia, or substance is found. Such proceedings shall conform as nearly as possible to proceedings in rem in admiralty.

(Pub. L. 91-540, § 6, Dec. 9, 1970, 84 Stat. 1406; Pub. L. 94-360, § 7, July 13, 1976, 90 Stat. 918.)

AMENDMENTS

1976—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 94-360 substituted provisions increasing the maximum amount of fine that can be imposed and the maximum length of imprisonment that can be ordered for knowingly performing enumerated activities prohibited under this chapter, for provisions authorizing a maximum civil penalty of \$1,000 for each unintentional violation of this chapter, requiring notice to an alleged violator prior to assessment of any penalty and authorizing the institution of civil actions by the Attorney General to enforce such penalties.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 94-360 substituted provisions relating to imposition of civil penalties up to \$2,000, cri-

teria for imposition of particular amounts, and procedures for review and enforcement of civil penalties, for provisions authorizing fines up to \$2,000 and/or imprisonment up to six months for intentional violations of provisions of this chapter or any regulation issued thereunder.

Subsecs. (c) to (e). Pub. L. 94-360 added subsecs. (c) to (e).

**§ 1826. Notice of violations to Attorney General**

Whenever the Secretary believes that a willful violation of this chapter has occurred and that prosecution is needed to obtain compliance with this chapter, he shall inform the Attorney General and the Attorney General shall take such action with respect to such matter as he deems appropriate.

(Pub. L. 91-540, § 7, Dec. 9, 1970, 84 Stat. 1406.)

**§ 1827. Utilization of personnel of Department of Agriculture and officers and employees of consenting States; technical and other non-financial assistance to State**

**(a) Assistance from Department of Agriculture and States**

The Secretary, in carrying out the provisions of this chapter, shall utilize, to the maximum extent practicable, the existing personnel and facilities of the Department of Agriculture. The Secretary is further authorized to utilize the officers and employees of any State, with its consent, and with or without reimbursement, to assist him in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

**(b) Assistance to States**

The Secretary may, upon request, provide technical and other nonfinancial assistance (including the lending of equipment on such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines is appropriate) to any State to assist it in administering and enforcing any law of such State designed to prohibit conduct described in section 1824 of this title.

(Pub. L. 91-540, § 8, Dec. 9, 1970, 84 Stat. 1406; Pub. L. 94-360, § 8, July 13, 1976, 90 Stat. 920.)

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94-360 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

**§ 1828. Rules and regulations**

The Secretary is authorized to issue such rules and regulations as he deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 91-540, § 9, Dec. 9, 1970, 84 Stat. 1406.)

**§ 1829. Preemption of State laws; concurrent jurisdiction; prohibition on certain State action**

No provision of this chapter shall be construed as indicating an intent on the part of the Congress to occupy the field in which such provision operates to the exclusion of the law of any State on the same subject matter, unless there is a direct and positive conflict between such provision and the law of the State so that the two cannot be reconciled or consistently stand together. Nor shall any provision of this chapter