

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That a new section be and it is hereby added to Article 63 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Mechanics' Lien", to be under sub-title "Livestock", said new section to be known as Section 51, to follow immediately after Section 50 of said Article, and to read as follows:

LIVESTOCK.

51. (a) The owner or operator of every livery stable or other establishment giving care or custody to any horse or other livestock shall have a lien thereon for any reasonable charge for board and custody, training fees, veterinarians' and blacksmiths' charges, and for other proper maintenance expenses.

(b) Any person, association or corporation having a lien under the provisions of this section may sell the horse or other livestock at public auction sale, if the account is due and unpaid for a period of thirty days after any such fee, charge or expense shall have accrued and if the lienor still retains possession of the same.

(c) The lienor must give at least one month's notice to the owner of the horse or other livestock, by registered mail addressed to the owner's last known address, before he may proceed with any such sale. If the whereabouts of the owner be unknown, such notice may be given by written or printed notice set up at the Court House door of the County wherein the animal is located, or City of Baltimore, as the case may be.

(d) Following such notice, if the account still remains due and unpaid, the lienor may proceed to sell the horse or other livestock at public auction sale to satisfy the said account. Such sale shall not be held unless advertised in the public press at least twice, seven days apart. The proceeds of such sale shall be applied to the expenses thereof and then to the liquidation of such indebtedness; and the balance, if any, shall be paid over to the debtor.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, and having been passed by a yea and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all of the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly of Maryland, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved March 4, 1949.