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# The Press

## DEMOCRAT

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### PENNGROVE

## Lawmakers adopt 'Day of the Horse'

California lawmakers, prodded by a Sonoma County horse trainer, have established the "Day of the Horse," an annual observance to be held on the second Saturday in December.

Dennis Reis, founder of the School of Universal Horsemanship in Penngrove, started the legislative process in January

because he wanted to increase the awareness of the horse in the state's culture. He's now working on a national "Day of the Horse" to "promote the welfare of this majestic animal."

"Our past rides upon the horse's back. The horse is a living link to the heritage and history of our nation," Reis said Monday. Nationwide, he said, horses are a \$112 billion industry.

Reis said California becomes the first state to have a special day set aside to honor the horse.

Assemblyman Joe Nation, D-San Rafael, introduced the resolution establishing the "Day of the Horse." The resolution was passed by California's Assembly and won approval from the Senate on Friday.

The first officially recognized "Day of the Horse" will be Dec. 14.

— Tim Tesconi