

Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act

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"The pipeline to slaughter is a death sentence for horses, subjecting them to unimaginable suffering. These majestic animals, who have helped build this nation, are deserving of compassion and kindness, not cruelty. It's time to end their horrifying journey to slaughter, where many suffer brutal abuse long before they arrive. Horse slaughter for human consumption is an industry that shows a complete disregard for these loyal and noble animals. We call on lawmakers to support Senators Graham and Luján and Representatives Buchanan and Schakowsky in their efforts to pass the *Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act* and put an end to this inhumane practice once and for all," said Sara Amundson, President, Humane World Action Fund.

"Although the overall decline in American horses being exported for human consumption is a sign of progress, more than 19,000 horses are still being trucked across the border each year as part of the predatory horse slaughter pipeline. This industry needs to be shut down once and for all. We are immensely grateful to Congressman Buchanan, Congresswoman Schakowsky, Senator Graham, and Senator Luján for their outstanding leadership on the *SAFE Act* and we hope that Congress will move quickly to protect America's horses from slaughter," **said Susan Millward, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Animal Welfare Institute**.

"Despite overwhelming public opposition to horse slaughter, a legal loophole still allows tens of thousands of American horses to be shipped to other countries for slaughter each year. Not only is horse slaughter cruel and unnecessary, but the existence of the slaughter pipeline itself stifles rescue and rehoming efforts, putting equine welfare at risk. Equine industry and animal welfare groups are working daily to solve equine welfare issues on the ground, but we cannot fully succeed while the slaughter pipeline remains open. We are so grateful to Senators Graham and Luján and Representatives Buchanan and Schakowsky for their dedication to starting a new chapter for America's equines and championing the *SAFE Act* to secure an end to horse slaughter," said Nancy Perry, Senior Vice President of Government Relations, ASPCA.

"The U.S. Harness Racing Alumni Association fully supports the *SAFE Act* and will work vigorously to bring an end to our equines being exported to slaughter. We applaud House sponsors Vern Buchanan (R-FL) and Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) along with Senate sponsors Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM) for reintroducing the *SAFE Act*," said Fred Hudson, CEO, U.S. Harness Racing Alumni Association.

"The Jockey Club is proud to once again strongly endorse the *Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act*. The bill would create a federal ban on horse slaughter for human consumption in the United States, as well as on the transport and export for slaughter outside the United States. The bill will also have meaningful penalties. The Jockey Club commends House sponsors Vern Buchanan (R-FL) and Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), and Senate sponsors Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Ben Lujan (D-NM) for reintroducing the *SAFE Act*. Their leadership on this issue has been steadfast, and we will do all in our power to help get this bill passed this Congress," said Jim Gagliano, CEO, the Jockey Club.

"This bipartisan legislation would at last put an end to the thousands of unnecessary, inhumane deaths suffered each year by American horses, both domestic and wild, while saving the government time and money that are currently being wasted on a shrinking, foreign-driven industry. We commend Representatives Buchanan and Schakowsky and Senators Graham and Luján for their unwavering dedication to ending the slaughter of all horses through passage of the *SAFE Act*," said Neda DeMayo, President, Return to Freedom Wild Horse Conservation.