

Federal Legislation to Help Horses

Stop Horse Slaughter

American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act – S. 1776 – Senators Landrieu (D-LA) and Graham (R-SC) introduced this bill to prohibit the transport of horses to slaughter for human consumption.

- Horse slaughter is inherently cruel and unnecessary.
- At least 70 % of Americans favor a ban on horse slaughter.
- More than 92 percent of horses sent to slaughter are in good condition—not old and injured—and could lead healthy, productive lives. Any horse could wind up at slaughter, once sold.
- Horse slaughter is NOT humane euthanasia. The methods used to kill horses rarely result in quick deaths; the animals often endure repeated stuns or blows, and sometimes remain conscious during slaughter.



Ban Dangerous, Cruel Transport

Horse Transportation Safety Act – S. 1281 – Senators Kirk (R-IL) and Lautenberg (D-NJ) introduced this legislation to ban dangerous double-decker trailers for interstate transport of horses.

- Horses transported in overcrowded double-deckers are particularly at risk for injury during transit.
- Designed for cattle and short-necked livestock, these trailers cannot provide adequate space for horses to keep their balance, leading to unstable footing, falls, injuries, trampling, and even death.
- Preventable accidents in recent years have left horses twisted, injured and dying on our highways and required massive rescue and recovery efforts.

Curb Racehorse Drug Abuse

Interstate Horseracing Improvement Act – H. R. 1733 & S. 886 – Representatives Whitfield (R-KY) and Chandler (D-KY) and Senator Udall (D-NM) introduced this bill to ban the use of performance-enhancing drugs in horseracing.

- The European Union, the Middle East and Japan all ban the use of drugs on race days, but the U.S. has no uniform rules on this practice.
- Doping contributes to breakdowns on the tracks—endangering the lives of jockeys, exercise riders and the horses themselves. Sore and injured horses injected with painkillers on race day may run at full speed down the track, oblivious to pain that might otherwise be a warning to both horse and jockey.

How YOU Can Help Horses: Be Their Voice!

As a constituent for one member of the U.S. House of Representatives and for two members of the U.S. Senate, **you have a voice for horses who need your help.** Your U.S. Senators and Representative need to hear from you. You can reach their offices through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121. Tell them you are their constituent and that you care about horses; **ask them to cosponsor and actively support these bills.**

Please join our advocacy brigade so we can count on your support for these and other important animal protection bills. Just go to www.aspca.org/joinbrigade.