



## The Jockey Club

40 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022  
Phone: (212) 371-5970 | Fax: (212) 371-6123

January 29, 2020

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy & Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy & Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2322-A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on Health  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael Burgess  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Health  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2322-A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member Walden, Chairwoman Eshoo and Ranking Member Burgess:

I write on behalf of The Jockey Club to express our support for the Safeguard American Food Exports (SAFE) Act (H.R. 961; S.2006) to end the slaughter of American horses in the U.S. and abroad. This bill enjoys overwhelming support in Congress, among the American public, and in the Thoroughbred community across the country.

As a steward of the Thoroughbred since 1894, we believe that our equine athletes should be treated humanely throughout their lives – before, during, and after their racing careers. Our organization has been instrumental in protecting racehorses through track policies that expressly prohibit trainers or owners from selling their horse to slaughter. And though these measures are crucial in the interim, the only guaranteed way to protect our nation's equines from this fate is to ban the practice in perpetuity.

We are proud of the steps that our industry has taken towards facilitating new careers for retired racehorses, and for providing resources towards aftercare programs across the country. Valuing our equine athletes throughout their lives is a hallmark of the Thoroughbred industry, which is why it is critical both for the welfare of our equines and for the sustainability of our industry that American horses no longer fall prey to the slaughter pipeline. Americans, and particularly the equine community, overwhelmingly oppose this practice.

We respectfully urge your support of the SAFE Act and hope to see this bill move forward in the near future.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

James L. Gagliano  
President & Chief Operating Officer