

1. Arizona Humane Society (AZ-08)
2. New Beginnings West Paso Fino Horse Rescue (AZ-08)
3. Saffyre Sanctuary, Inc. (CA-29)
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9. Little Bear Stables (MA-03)
10. Peter Radue, DVM, Damascus Equine Associates (MD)
11. Safe Haven Equine Warriors (MD)
12. This Old Horse (MN-02)
13. Amy Polkes, DVM, Equine Internal Medicine and Diagnostic Services (MD, CO, CT, NY, VA)
14. Jessica Springsteen, Olympic Equestrian (NJ-06)
15. Monmouth SPCA (NJ-06)
16. Wyandot County Equine Rescue (OH-05)
17. Hosanna Horse Haven (OH-05)



1521 W. DOBBINS ROAD  
PHOENIX, AZ 85041  
AZHUMANE.ORG

February 7, 2022

The Honorable Debbie Lesko  
1214 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Lesko,

As your constituent and President of the Arizona Humane Society, a nonprofit organization devoted to saving the most vulnerable animals, I am writing to urge you to support the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355, an important bill which would end horse slaughter in the United States and ban the export of horses for slaughter abroad, and which has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped abroad to foreign abattoirs, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Not only is the transport and slaughter of these beloved animals inhumane, but it is also wholly unnecessary. Research published in 2017 revealed that there are over 2.3 million Americans that have the willingness and resources to adopt these animals if only they were given the chance. Additionally, a 2021 poll found that 83% of American voters oppose this cruel industry.

We at the Arizona Humane Society wholeheartedly support the SAFE Act, which is currently cosponsored by nearly one-half of your House colleagues. We know that equine owners are afraid to rehome their animals for fear that they may end up in a slaughterhouse. Passage of the SAFE Act would close the horses-to-slaughter pipeline for good and provide peace of mind to the equine community.

Please help protect American horses by supporting the advancement of the SAFE Act out of committee and by voting yes when it reaches a vote.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steven R. Hansen", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Steven R. Hansen, DVM  
President & CEO



May 23, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Schakowsky, Representative Lesko, and Members of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

As the Founder and President of New Beginnings West Paso Fino Horse Rescue and Sanctuary as well as Director to New Beginnings Paso Fino Horse Rescue. I am writing to implore you to cosponsor the Save America's Forgotten Equine Act (SAFE) Act (H.R. 3355). This vital legislation would ban the exportation of American horses for slaughter, and permanently ban horse slaughter plants on U.S. soil. Currently, tens of thousands of American horses are sent across our borders for slaughter each year. We are one of many horse rescue organizations compelled to use our valuable and limited resources rescuing horses from the cruel and exploitive slaughter pipeline.

New Beginnings is a non-profit organization that serves Arizona, Nevada, and beyond to provide shelter and rehabilitation to abused, neglected, unwanted, and "at risk" horses, with the emphasis towards the Paso Fino Breed, in an attempt to make a difference in their lives, one donation at a time. Here at New Beginnings we know we cannot save ALL the horses of the world, or even save all the Paso Finos of the world. But what we CAN do, with the help of our many, many volunteers, is to make a difference in the lives of those few horses fortunate enough to make it to our ranch here in Pahrump, Nevada and Surprise, Arizona, thus avoiding the destiny of being abandoned to die, starved, or sold to slaughter out of country.

There are homes for the mostly healthy and young horses going to slaughter. The approximately 23,000 American horses exported for slaughter in 2021 could have easily been absorbed into good homes had slaughter been halted. Research published in 2017 found that there are 2.3 million adults with the desire and the resources to adopt a horse immediately. It is clear that there are ample homes for every horse sent to slaughter this year –and for the next 30 years – if they are given the chance to find them. The resources that we use to save these horses from slaughter could be better spent on rehabilitation and equine therapy; please help us eliminate the possibility of their slaughter.

Please reflect the wishes of equine rescues across the country and move the SAFE Act, H.R. 3355 forward in Congress. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Glenn Davis  
President for New Beginnings West, Director for New Beginnings  
Surprise, Arizona



## Saffyre Sanctuary, Inc.

P.O. Box 921708  
Sylmar, California 91392-1708  
(818) 842-4368

Email: [esta@saffyresanctuary.org](mailto:esta@saffyresanctuary.org)

Web Site: [www.saffyresanctuary.org](http://www.saffyresanctuary.org)

Federal Tax ID #27-0333811

February 22, 2022

The Honorable Tony Cárdenas  
2438 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Cárdenas,

As your constituent and President of Saffyre Sanctuary, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of abandoned, abused, and neglected horses, I am writing to thank you for cosponsoring the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355. The bill has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, on which you serve, and it is our organization's hope to see this bill advance out of committee.

Every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped abroad to foreign abattoirs, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Not only is the transport and slaughter of these beloved animals inhumane, but it is also wholly unnecessary. Research published in 2017 revealed that there are over 2.3 million Americans with the willingness and resources to adopt these animals, if only they were given the chance. Additionally, a 2021 poll found that 83% of American voters oppose this cruel industry.

This issue is of special importance here in California, home to over 500,000 horses, the second highest number of any state. Californians have already spoken on this issue with Proposition 6, which banned the slaughter of horses for human consumption in the state in 1998. Yet we know that many equine owners are still afraid to rehome their animals for fear that they may end up in a slaughterhouse. Passage of the SAFE Act would close the horses-to-slaughter pipeline for good and provide peace of mind to the equine community.

Please help protect America's horses by urging your fellow Energy and Commerce Committee members, and specifically Chairman Pallone, to advance this bill out of committee.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Esta G. Bernstein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "E" and a horizontal line across the middle of the name.

Esta G. Bernstein  
Founder, President & CEO  
Saffyre Sanctuary, Inc.

**Beauty's Haven Farm and Equine Rescue, Inc.**

**A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization**

bhfer.org

***Where Life Begins, Again!***

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The Honorable Neal Dunn  
316 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

February 8th, 2022

Dear Representative Dunn,

As your constituent and President of Beauty's Haven Farm & Equine Rescue, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome equines in need, I am writing to urge you to cosponsor the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355. The bill has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, on which you serve, and needs your immediate action.

Every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped abroad to foreign abattoirs, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Not only is the transport and slaughter of these beloved animals inhumane, but it is also wholly unnecessary. Research published in 2017 revealed that there are over 2.3 million Americans that have the willingness and resources to adopt these animals, if only they were given the chance. Additionally, a 2021 poll found that 83% of American voters oppose this cruel industry.

This issue is of special importance here in Florida, home to over 300,000 horses, the third most of any state. We know that equine owners are afraid to rehome their animals for fear that they could end up in a slaughterhouse. Passage of the SAFE Act would close the horses-to-slaughter pipeline for good and provide peace of mind to the equine community.

Please help protect America's horses by cosponsoring the SAFE Act and urging your fellow Energy and Commerce Committee members to support the advancement of the bill out of committee.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Theresa Batchelor  
President  
Beauty's Haven Farm & Equine Rescue, Inc.  
PO Box 53  
Morrison, FL 32668



The Honorable Neal Dunn  
Tallahassee Office  
300 South Adams Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

January 4, 2022

Dear Representative Neal Dunn,

On behalf of Horses Without Humans, I am writing today to ask you to protect America's precious and beautiful horses by cosponsoring H.B 3355, The Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act. This bill is vital for protecting our horses from being shipped abroad to endure cruel and inhumane slaughter practices.

H.R. 3355 currently has 209 cosponsors in the U.S. House of Representatives and a recent poll shows 83% of Americans oppose horse slaughter. These numbers reflect the growing bipartisan consensus that horse slaughter is a nightmarish industry – unlike cattle and pigs, horses are ill-suited for modern slaughter practices because of their unique biology and the slaughter process can have especially gruesome outcomes for equines.

The last two states to harbor horse slaughter facilities, Texas and Illinois, have passed laws which explicitly ban the horse slaughter industry in recognition of the detrimental economic and moral impacts on the surrounding community. What is more, the American horses which are sold and shipped abroad for slaughter are seriously unsafe to consume. Their entire lives, these horses are treated with drugs which the Food and Drug Administration has not approved for the treatment of animals intended for human consumption. By failing to act, Congress will allow bad actors in foreign states to continue selling horsemeat packed with unsafe substances.

At Horses Without Humans we support our Florida District 2 community by providing the compassion and time it takes to rehabilitate equines in transition as well as professional assessment, medical care, companionship, and professional training with some of the most successful trainers in the equine industry. Equine owners, equestrians, and the entire equine industry faces a huge threat as long as the horse slaughter pipeline is active because every horse is just one bad sale away from slaughter. Not only does slaughter provide a huge threat to our successful Florida equine industry, but it threatens the welfare of horse rescue organizations. It is common practice for kill buyers to frequent regular horse auctions and actively outbid responsible horse owners and rescue groups – forcing them to overspend their limited financial resources in bidding wars. Kill buyers often focus their bids on horses that a rescue group is trying save, thereby depleting that rescue's resources and reducing competition for the other horses at the auction. Rescuers should not have to compete against a for-profit industry, and public policy should promote, not hinder, equine rescue. Instead of spending



extensive resources on intercepting horses bound for slaughter, horse rescues should be able to use their precious funding for training, rehoming, and safety net programs.

We also know that there are homes for the mostly healthy and young horses going to slaughter. The approximately 35,000 American horses exported for slaughter in 2020 could have easily been absorbed into good homes had slaughter been halted. Research published in 2017 found that there are 2.3 million adults with the desire and the resources to adopt a horse immediately. It is clear that there are ample homes for every horse sent to slaughter this year – and for the next 30 years – if they are given the chance to find them.

Representative Dunn, you have to opportunity to ensure that American horses are safe from slaughter. Please cosponsor the SAFE Act, H.R. 3355 and show the American people that Congress is willing to do what it takes to protect these magnificent animals.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Barteau  
Founder, Horses Without Humans and Head Trainer at KYB Dressage  
Bell, FL  
(847) 809-4093



## Casey's Healing Hooves

13116 Oakwood Dr. Hudson, Florida 34669

Ph. (727) 645-2819

[www.caseyshealinghooves.com](http://www.caseyshealinghooves.com)

May 24, 2022

Dear Chair Schakowsky, Ranking Member Bilirakis, and Members of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

As the Founder and CEO of Casey's Healing Hooves in Hudson, FL, an equine-assisted therapy organization focused on enhancing the quality of life of individuals with disabilities by providing them with free or low-cost therapeutic Equine Therapy, I am writing to urge you to support the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355. This vital legislation would permanently ban horse slaughter in the U.S. and save the thousands of horses sent for slaughter abroad. I ask that you work with your colleagues to advance the SAFE Act out of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

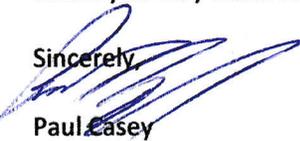
Casey's Healing Hooves was founded to encourage and nurture psychological and physical well-being through the relationship and love of horses. Our organization provides support for children, veterans, and individuals with disabilities by encouraging a therapeutic relationship between people and horses, which offers the opportunity to explore abilities rather than disabilities. Equine therapy can help humans through a myriad of challenges, even helping children with autism learn how to form bonds and become comfortable with social interactions. Our facility is funded primarily by wonderful support in our community, as so many of us recognize the incredible benefits of equine therapy. By making a difference in the lives of the horses being sent to slaughter, we could make a difference in the lives of countless people who would benefit from their companionship and support.

The horses typically sent to slaughter are often healthy, young horses with the same capacity for creating lifelong bonds and healing those lucky enough to experience their beauty. Organizations like mine, and over 2.3 million Americans have the willingness and resources to adopt these animals. Still, every year tens of thousands of American horses are shipped to Mexico and Canada, where they are slaughtered for their meat. It's a devastating and cruel practice that is completely unnecessary when homes exist for these horses.

Horses are beautiful, loving, and inspiring animals. They are so ingrained in American history and culture, that their very image represents the freedom we all treasure. We have a duty to repay them for the love, companionship and healing they have given us, but protecting them from the cruel horse slaughter pipeline. Please protect America's horses and urge your colleagues to advance the SAFE Act.

Thank you very much for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Paul Casey

Casey's Healing Hooves, Founder and CEO



May 24, 2022

Dear Chair Schakowsky, Ranking Member Bilirakis, and Members of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

As the Founder and Executive Director of Inspire Equine Assisted Center in Clearwater, FL, an equine-assisted therapy organization dedicated to partnering humans and horses in a healing environment, I am writing to urge you to support the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355. This bill would ban horse slaughter in the U.S. for human consumption and end the export of American horses for slaughter abroad. Please work with your colleagues to advance the SAFE Act out of the subcommittee and next the Energy and Commerce Committee.

At Inspire Equine Assisted Center, we prioritize the welfare of the humans and horses in our community through partnering humans and horses in a healing environment. Through our programs, we support children, veterans, and other individuals in conquering their physical, developmental, and emotional challenges in order to achieve their full potential. The equines at Inspire Equine Assisted Center have led many individuals toward a brighter future with their emotional, mental, and social intelligence and we know that many of the horses going to slaughter could go on to be healing teachers too.

The horses going to slaughter are most often healthy and young with bright futures ahead yet every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped abroad to foreign abattoirs, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Not only is the transport and slaughter of these beloved animals inhumane, but it is also wholly unnecessary. Research published in 2017 revealed that there are over 2.3 million Americans that have the willingness and resources to adopt these animals, if only they were given the chance.

Horses hold a unique place in American history and culture. They have served us as companions and as working therapists, and recreational partners for centuries, and they symbolize our greatest national ideal: freedom. We have an ethical duty to protect them from cruelty. Please help protect America's horses by urging your colleagues to advance the SAFE Act.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

*Melissa Yarbrough*

Melissa Yarbrough

Inspire Equine Assisted Center, Founder and Executive Director

1743 Doncaster Road Clearwater, FL 33764

<http://www.inspireequinetherapyprogram.org>

727 348 7104

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# Bright Angel Ranch

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February 14, 2022

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis  
2354 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bilirakis,

As your constituent and sole proprietor of Bright Angel Ranch, a specialized equine facility providing a safe haven for retired and recovering horses, I am writing to urge you to cosponsor the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355. This important bill will protect America's horses from being shipped abroad and becoming victims of the gruesome slaughter industry.

Every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped to foreign slaughterhouses, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Unlike livestock such as cattle and swine, horses' biology makes them unsuited to stunning, making their slaughter inherently inhumane. Furthermore, horses endure additional suffering during the transport process; 2021 research published in Meat Science found that 79% of slaughtered horses had excessive bruising from transport related injury. It's no wonder that 83% of American voters oppose this cruel industry.

Here in Florida, a state that is home to over 300,000 horses, the danger posed by the horse slaughter industry looms ominously over our equine community. We at Bright Angel Ranch know that many horse owners are afraid to rehome their animals for fear that they could end up in a slaughterhouse. The SAFE Act would not only protect America's horses from cruelty, but it would also bring peace of mind to those of us who love and care for horses.

Representative Bilirakis, you have the opportunity as a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee to help protect America's horses by cosponsoring the SAFE Act and urging your fellow committee members to move this bill forward. I hope you will show your constituents that Congress is willing to step up for these magnificent animals.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Jeffrie Van Loveren  
Sole Proprietor  
Bright Angel Ranch, LLC

16653 BELLAMY BROTHERS BOULEVARD  
DADE CITY, FLORIDA 33523  
INFO@BRIGHTANGELFARMS.COM  
(813) 351-0925

LITTLE BEAR  
STABLES



May 24, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Schakowsky, Representative Trahan, and Members of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

On behalf of Little Bear Stables, a registered 501(c)3 Non-Profit organization in Lancaster, MA, dedicated to rescuing abused and unwanted equines, I ask you to please support and advance the SAFE Act, H.R. 3355. This legislation will protect our country's horses by permanently ending their slaughter at home and by prohibiting their exportation to Canada and Mexico for slaughter. Though this practice is currently silenced in the United States due to appropriations language prohibiting federal funds from being spent on slaughter plant inspections, we know this industry presents a real threat to society and the well-being of our equines. Until a permanent ban is in place, every horse is at risk of being slaughtered.

Little Bear Stables focuses on the rescue and rehabilitation of unwanted horses and other equines who would otherwise be sent to slaughter. Most of the horses going to slaughter are healthy animals that could continue to lead valuable, happy lives if given the chance. Opportunities for horses in need are everywhere: Recreational and competitive riding, law enforcement equestrian units, physical and emotional therapy programs, and of course, companion animals.

Every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped abroad to foreign abattoirs, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Not only is the transport and slaughter of these beloved animals inhumane, but it is also wholly unnecessary. Research published in 2017 revealed that there are over 2.3 million Americans that have the willingness and resources to adopt these animals. Additionally, a 2021 poll found that 83% of American voters oppose this cruel industry.

Please stand with your constituents by supporting the SAFE Act today. Moving this bill forward would signal to your colleagues and constituents that you take the welfare of our nation's equines seriously. Thank you so much.

Sincerely, 

Lindsay Jordan, Founder and Director  
Little Bear Stables, Inc.  
LittleBearStables@gmail.com  
(508) 505-7827



May 23, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Schakowsky, Ranking Member Bilirakis, and Members of the Committee:

As an equine practitioner, I am writing today to ask you to protect America's horses by passing H.R. 3355 and S.2732., the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act. This bill is vital for protecting our horses from being shipped abroad to endure cruel and inhumane slaughter practices.

I have been an equine veterinarian for forty-one years and a horse owner for more than fifty years. I am confident that horse slaughter is a nightmarish industry – unlike cattle and pigs, horses are ill-suited for modern slaughter practices because of their unique biology and the slaughter process can have especially gruesome outcomes for equines. I would never consider sending one of my own horses for slaughter. Horses have a natural flight response and are extremely stressed by confinement and shipping. Additionally, horses' normal escape efforts make humane killing harder to achieve in a factory situation. Slaughter is not humane euthanasia and cannot be tolerated.

What is more, the American horses which are sold and shipped abroad for slaughter are seriously unsafe to consume. Their entire lives, these horses are treated with drugs that the Food and Drug Administration has not approved for the treatment of animals intended for human consumption. By failing to act, Congress will allow bad actors in foreign states to continue selling horsemeat packed with unsafe substances.

Last year according to USDA equine export to slaughter was down to less than 24,000 horses. With the numbers being this low, we have the rescues, resources and education to absorb these horses. The argument that slaughter is a necessary means of population control can no longer be viable. And if rescues weren't spending funding at auctions and kill pens, we could help so many more through intake and community assistance.

Members of the Subcommittee on Health, you have the opportunity to ensure that American horses are never again shipped abroad to face the horrific fate of slaughter. Please be the voice of equine veterinarians and pass the SAFE Act, H.R. 3355 and S.2732. It is time to show the American people that Congress is willing to do what it takes to protect these magnificent animals.

Sincerely,

Peter Radue, DVM  
Damascus Equine Associates  
Mt. Airy, MD



Equine Warriors

2565 Indian Hill Drive,  
Sykesville MD. 21784  
Telephone: 410-718-1806  
Email: [tina@safehavenequinewarriors.org](mailto:tina@safehavenequinewarriors.org)  
Website: [www.safehavenequinewarriors.org](http://www.safehavenequinewarriors.org)

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Dear Committee Members and Guests,

I am one of thousands of equine rescuers who work feverishly 24/7- 365 to outrun an antiquated industry of horror that the government has allowed to continue despite public outrage.

The export of American horses to slaughter for the purpose of human consumption has created an outdated industry of deceit, financial reward for irresponsible behavior and barbaric cruelty on the backs of an animal we hold in great esteem in this country.

Export for slaughter was once seen by some as a necessary evil for population control. In 2012 166,572 horses were exported to slaughter from the U.S. The message was clear to the equine welfare industry that we, not the government had to solve the problem.

We have! In 2021 that number decreased to under 24,000 horses according to the USDA and currently is on track in 2022, just a decade later to be well under 20,000! That's a 70% decline in 10 years!

Today there are over 500 501c3 equine rescues along with hundreds of farm sanctuaries and privately funded horses rescues. We have the means to absorb the meager number of horses still being exported for slaughter. The horse industry contributes well over \$50 BILLION dollars directly to the economy and employs over 988,000 people resulting in \$38 billion in direct wages, salaries and benefits, according to The American Horse Council. We want it to be known that even 1 horse slipping through the cracks is not acceptable!

The decrease in equine slaughter in recent years as the horse industry it's self has grown, can be attributed not only to more rescues , but to more education available, along with more resources for horses owners in need, from euthanasia assistance to low cost castration. More groups dedicated solely to safely networking horses in need of rehoming such as "The Maryland Equine Transition Service" are being created every day. Horse breeding is at an all time low as breeders take a more sensible, responsible approach to breed quality rather than quantity. The horse industry has taken the problem of the unwanted horse seriously.

But we need your help to get to the finish line.

One of the biggest financial road blocks for the equine rescue community is the " Slaughterhouse Pipeline" kill buyers (Meat Men) who have contracts with foreign processing plants to deliver a predetermined number of horses on a schedule. They will stop at nothing to fill the contracts. Kill buyers are running up prices at auctions intentionally causing rescues to exhaust donor funding simply to get us out of the way. It's important to note that the average slaughter bound horse is not old, crippled, skinny or useless by any means. The average horse entering the slaughter pipeline is 4-14 yrs old, of good weight and most often previously had some training making them highly desired and adoptable! They are not unwanted! The simple fact that rescues and private buyers are bidding against kill buyers proves this.



Safe Haven Equine Warriors is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN #82-2005684





Equine Warriors

2565 Indian Hill Drive,  
Sykesville MD. 21784  
Telephone: 410-718-1806  
Email: [tina@safehavenequinewarriors.org](mailto:tina@safehavenequinewarriors.org)  
Website: [www.safehavenequinewarriors.org](http://www.safehavenequinewarriors.org)

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The side business in the kill buyer industry is the scam dealer. These people work with the killbuyers, advertising horses as " Shipping in x number of days ( usually 5-7) " if not purchased online , sight unseen," as is." While these horses await a buyer in the kill pens, there is no care given, extremely overcrowded conditions, insufficient food, and no medical care. This is where the majority of horses get injured or infected with everything from parasites, skin diseases, rotting hooves to deadly highly contagious viruses that run rampant in auction houses. Scam dealers and kill buyers drag many of these horses from auction to auction along their route to the border always looking to trade up for meatier horses that will bring better prices at the processing plants. Well meaning people see these poor horses online and whip out the credit cards. The thinner and sicker they can make the horse, the more money they reap preying on the hearts of the public. While it is a " buyer beware" world, this creates tremendous competition for rescues to recruit adopters. Often people looking for horses will think of rescue horses as safe for the moment, while these online purposely pitiful horses have an expiration date. They pay large ransom prices to get these horses out of the disease ridden cesspools! It's criminal!

The 3 main roadblocks for the horse industry CAUSED by the export of American horses to slaughter are:

1. Financial impact- Rescues spend far too much public funding and precious time outbidding kill buyers to save horses. This money would be better spend helping more horses get in good homes, assisting horses owners in need as well as developing more programs for the public, animal control and law enforcement to utilize. Private buyers offering good homes are run up as well for the sack of kill buyers filling contracts with processing plants. The scam dealer business has caused great competition for rescues as people try desperately to "save" a horse that could have gone to a rescue or family before it got in such poor condition. Without equine slaughter in our way the rescue community could do so much more!
2. Creates deception- Horses suffer in silence because people who actually need to surrender or rehome horses they can no longer care for are so reluctant to sell, give away, or reach out. They fear their beloved pet will end up in the slaughterhouse pipeline. It's a well known fact that kill buyers have "Trolls" who are always looking for free or cheap horses to fill the contracts. They will lie and promise good homes only to directly ship that horse to slaughter for a handsome profit.
3. Morally WRONG- It's a well know fact that 83% of Americans are appalled at the idea of horses being sent to slaughter. This country was founded on the back of of a horse. Most everything in modern society can be traced back to the labor of the horse! In addition, the government is KNOWINGLY allowing tainted meat to enter the world food chain! What does that say about us? Where's the America who lead the world in what is right? Have we sold out?

I'm a rescuer. I run a 501c3 horse rescue in Maryland. I stand on the auction floor and outbid kill buyers with funding from a community who believes horse slaughter is wrong. We restore the health and trust in horses and then adopt them to good families, riding schools and therapeutic programs where they are useful, precious gifts that give a lifetime of joy to their people.



Safe Haven Equine Warriors is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN #82-2005684





Equine Warriors

2565 Indian Hill Drive,  
Sykesville MD. 21784  
Telephone: 410-718-1806  
Email: [tina@safehavenequinewarriors.org](mailto:tina@safehavenequinewarriors.org)  
Website: [www.safehavenequinewarriors.org](http://www.safehavenequinewarriors.org)

Sometimes, I stroke a horse's head while a veterinarian administers a lethal dose of drugs, telling him he is loved and apologizing that he suffered so much, so needlessly and was so traumatized before we found him. In my arms, he takes his last breath, sparing him the brutal trip to a slaughter house. This is my job. I'm asking you today to help me and the thousands just like me change the narrative. PLEASE, finally ban the export of American horses for slaughter and human consumption. PLEASE help us get H.R.3355/S.2732 passed NOW. Be assured, we will not stop until you do. We've done what you have asked, and we urge you to help us be the safety net for all American horses by getting the slaughterhouse pipeline shut down once and for all.

Thank you for your immediate action on this urgent matter.

Best Regards,

Tina Snyder

Founder/ Executive Director

Safe Haven Equine Warriors

A 501c3 Horse Rescue



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Safe Haven Equine Warriors is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN #82-2005684





May 24, 2022

Dear Chair Schakowsky, Representative Craig, and Members of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am writing to ask you to support and advance H.R. 3355, the SAFE Act. This Old Horse is a 501c3 nonprofit and by all measures rank among the top equine welfare organizations in the country. We are accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), accredited by the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance (TAA), and by the Standardbred Transition Alliance (STA), the last two based on our work with diverting Minnesota's off-track racehorses from the slaughter pipeline.

We have achieved multiple national awards, have been selected as an ASPCA/ The Right Horse Adoption Partner, have achieved Equus Foundation's Guardian status and we are the lead agency for the Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition. We are the first and only equine welfare organization in the country to have been named a Purina Feeds Brand Ambassador—an honor usually reserved for world famous horses and riders.

We offer help to horses and horse owners in hardship circumstances who must voluntarily surrender their horses to safe harbor. We work with Minnesota humane agents throughout the State to assist in involuntary seizures of horses who have been severely abused or neglected.

We manage 12 farms in the greater metropolitan area with a daily average census of 240 horses in our care and have more than 85 foster hosts in our network who each take in one or two horses in need.

Our horses are giving back to the community through our equine assisted activities for children's literacy, first responders, veterans, and therapeutic programs for individuals with various disabilities.

We have welcomed more than 3,000 volunteers since our inception in 2012 and have put Minnesota on the map with our work to support equines in need.

In the meantime, the SAFE Act is an essential tool to help us protect and support the welfare and well-being of horses in Minnesota and throughout the Country. Horses cannot protect themselves and it is our privilege to work on their behalf. Please join us by cosponsoring this bill



and to urge this Subcommittee and the whole Energy & Commerce Committee to move the bill forward for a vote.

This is important.

Opponents of the SAFE Act argue that shipping horses to slaughter for meat production is analogous to other livestock species that are bred for meat production and is a safe and humane option to dealing with unwanted horses. However, there is no reliably humane way to euthanize horses without sedating them-and it is the sedation that taints the meat, not the anti-inflammatories. Therefore, horses sent to slaughter are not sedated, and thus their instinctive panic and distress make a captive bolt death designed for cattle unreliable and, in most cases, far from instant or humane for horses.

Our equine welfare industry does have the capacity to address the perceived 'problem' of unwanted horses. We address this issue every single day. We are good at it. Successful. Slaughtering our companion animals is not the answer. We can do better.

If you would like more information, please contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Turner, President  
This Old Horse, Inc.  
[nturner@thisoldhorse.org](mailto:nturner@thisoldhorse.org)  
612 839 9868



May 23, 2022

To the members of the committee

This letter is in support of H.R. 3355/S. 2732 safe act that would prohibit the transporting, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling or donation by a person of an equine for the purpose of slaughter for human consumption.

I am an Equine Internal Medicine Specialist that has dedicated my career to the health and welfare of horses. I work on all disciplines of horses from elite show horses to those that have been rescued by one of the many Equine Rescue Organizations I work with. The value of my patients is not defined by monetary value.

The timing of this bill is interesting. The Kentucky Derby was run May 7<sup>th</sup> of this year with 16 million viewers followed by the Preakness this past Saturday right in our own backyard (also with millions of viewers). These horses are providing an entertainment industry, but no one considers what happens to them after the race. These very same horses that you may have watched run in the Kentucky Derby or Preakness could end up on a truck to another country for slaughter for human consumption. They are not exempt from this practice and sadly many racehorses do meet this fate.

### **I took at veterinary oath upon graduation from veterinary school**

*“Being admitted to the profession of veterinary medicine, I solemnly swear to use my scientific knowledge and skills for the benefit of society through the protection of animal health and welfare, the prevention and relief of animal suffering, the conservation of animal resources, the promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical knowledge.*

*I will practice my profession conscientiously, with dignity, and in keeping with the principles of veterinary medical ethics.”*

It is for this reason that I am supporting the H.R. 3355/S. 2732 safe act to prevent needless suffering of horses through the egregious practice of horse slaughter for human consumption. My clients that are trying to rescue unwanted horses are consistently “outbid” by slaughter buyers trying to reach a quota. These are horses that could have the chance for adoption and placement. Equine Rescue Organizations have limited resources and when they are forced to extend their resources due to the inflated prices from the slaughterhouse buyers, they are unable to rescue more horses in need.

Horses are often sent to auction because their owners don't have the ability or resources to care for them any longer. Some people are so terrified the horse will end up being sold for slaughter that they try to care for the horses past their ability leading to neglect and suffering. If there was a safe avenue for re-homing horses in a humane manner, there would be a significant reduction in this prolonged suffering for fear of the horse ending up in the wrong hands.

The actual act of equine slaughter is so horrible it is difficult to comprehend. It most certainly does not meet any standard of animal welfare and we should not be contributing to this animal abuse by allowing these horses to be brought to a cruel and terrifying end of their life.

I donate my professional medical services and time to these rescue organizations to uphold my obligation as an Equine Veterinarian. If you help to protect these horses with passage of this bill, then you are doing your part to uphold your obligation to the humane treatment of animals in our country.

Sincerely

Amy Polkes DVM DACVIM  
Equine Internal Medicine and Diagnostic Services

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Chair  
Energy & Commerce Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2107 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 24, 2022

Dear Chairman Pallone:

As a proud New Jerseyan, a professional equestrian, a dedicated horse owner, and an ASPCA Equine Welfare Ambassador, I write to express my full support for the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act (H.R. 3355) which would end the slaughter of our nation's beloved equines for human consumption. I respectfully urge that you cosponsor this critical piece of animal protection legislation and advance it through the Energy & Commerce Committee immediately.

In 2012, I actively supported the successful campaign to ban horse slaughter in New Jersey. However, as important as that step was, until a federal ban is in place, every American horse remains just one bad sale away from the horrors of the killing floor.

**Congress must end horse slaughter once and for all. Now.**

I have seen horrifying video footage and photos taken at USDA-regulated horse slaughter plants. No reasonable person could see those images and continue to claim that horse slaughter is humane. Commercial slaughter is not about providing a kind, painless death – it is not a form of humane euthanasia. The slaughter process for equines is the antithesis of the dignified, humane release that these noble animals, who have given us so much, deserve when their quality of life is no longer viable. Top equine professionals, leaders in the horse racing industry, compassionate veterinarians and 83% of Americans know the difference and they support the SAFE Act.

Options for at-risk horses are plentiful, ranging from companion to competitor, from law enforcement to equine therapy. Research published in 2017 revealed over 2.3 million American adults have the willingness and resources available to adopt an equine.

Chairman Pallone, I greatly appreciate your support for this bill in previous Congresses, and I urge you to honor the wishes of the over 80 percent of Americans who strongly oppose horse slaughter for human consumption by advancing it out of Committee. Your leadership on the SAFE Act will help ensure that the thousands of horses caught in the slaughter pipeline every year will instead get a second chance. You and your colleagues hold the power – please use it to save our horses.

Thank you.

Sincerely,





Monmouth County  
SPCA

NOT-FOR-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
Founded in 1945

260 Wall Street  
Eatontown, NJ 07724

732.542.0040  
Fax 732.542.4552

MonmouthCountySPCA.org

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TNR Program

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Volunteer Program



The Honorable Frank Pallone  
2107 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

February 3, 2022

Dear Representative *Frank* Pallone,

As your constituent and Executive Director of the Monmouth County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MCSPCA), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect, care, and advocate for all animals, I am writing to urge your action on the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355. You have cosponsored the SAFE Act in the past; now, as Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, we hope you will use your authority to advance the SAFE Act out of committee and on to a floor vote.

Every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped abroad to foreign abattoirs, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Not only is the transport and slaughter of these beloved animals inhumane, but it is also wholly unnecessary. Research published in 2017 revealed that there are over 2.3 million Americans that have the willingness and resources to adopt these animals, if only they were given the chance. Additionally, a 2021 poll found that 83% of American voters oppose this cruel industry.

We at the MCSPCA wholeheartedly support the SAFE Act, which would ban horse slaughter in the U.S. for human consumption and end the export of American horses for slaughter abroad. A ban on horse slaughter has also been supported by The Jockey Club, Breeder's Cup, National Thoroughbred Racing Association, New York Racing Association, the National Black Farmers Association, animal welfare groups including the ASPCA, Humane Society of the U.S., Humane Society Legislative Fund, Animal Welfare Institute, and Return to Freedom Wild Horse Conservation, and other equine adoption professionals like the Homes for Horses Coalition which represents 500 nonprofits across the country.

Please help protect America's horses by leading the advancement of the SAFE Act out of committee and on to the House floor, where you and your colleagues can vote to end horse slaughter, once and for all.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Ross Licitra  
Executive Director  
Monmouth County SPCA

9640 County Highway 330  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351  
419-294-4477



February 7, 2022

The Honorable Bob Latta  
2467 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Latta,

As your constituent and President of the Wyandot County Equine Rescue, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing equine suffering through rescue and rehabilitation, I am writing to urge you to cosponsor the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355. The bill has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, on which you serve, and needs your immediate action.

Every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped abroad to foreign abattoirs, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Not only is the transport and slaughter of these beloved animals inhumane, but it is also wholly unnecessary. Research published in 2017 revealed that there are over 2.3 million Americans with the willingness and resources to adopt these animals, if only they were given the chance. Additionally, a 2021 poll found that 83% of American voters oppose this cruel industry.

Ohio is a top-ten state in terms of horse ownership, with over 300,000 horses estimated to live in the state. Many of the horses we receive are brought to us specifically because we offer a guarantee they will never end up at auction or slaughter. Many equine owners are afraid to rehome their animals for fear that they could end up in a slaughterhouse. That is why we wholeheartedly support the SAFE Act, which would ban horse slaughter in the U.S. for human consumption and end the export of American horses for slaughter abroad.

Horses hold a unique place in American history and culture. They have served us as companions and as working and recreational partners for centuries, and they symbolize our greatest national ideal: freedom. We have an ethical duty to protect them from cruelty.

Please help protect America's horses by cosponsoring the SAFE Act and urging your fellow Energy and Commerce Committee members to support the advancement of the bill out of committee.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

David A. Balz  
Director  
Wyandot County Equine Rescue  
9640 County Highway 330  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351



# Hosanna Horse Haven

## Equine Rescue and Sanctuary

The Honorable Bob Latta  
2467 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

January 19, 2022

Dear Representative Latta,

As your constituent and Director of Hosanna Horse Haven, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to save equines from neglect and abuse and to provide them with loving homes for life, I am writing to urge you to cosponsor the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3355. The bill has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, on which you serve, and needs your immediate action.

Every year, tens of thousands of American horses are shipped abroad to foreign abattoirs, facing extreme cruelty at every step of the journey. Not only is the transport and slaughter of these beloved animals inhumane, but it is also wholly unnecessary. Research published in 2017 revealed that there are over 2.3 million Americans with the willingness and resources to adopt these animals, if only they were given the chance. Additionally, a 2021 poll found that 83% of American voters oppose this cruel industry.

Ohio is a top-ten state in terms of horse ownership, with over 300,000 horses estimated to live in the state. We at Hosanna Horse Haven know that many Ohio equine owners are afraid to rehome their animals through auction for fear that they could end up in a slaughterhouse. That is why we wholeheartedly support the SAFE Act, which would ban horse slaughter in the U.S. for human consumption and end the export of American horses for slaughter abroad.

Horses hold a unique place in American history and culture. They have served us as companions and as working and recreational partners for centuries, and they symbolize our greatest national ideal: freedom. We have an ethical duty to protect them from cruelty.

Please help protect America's horses by cosponsoring the SAFE Act and urging your fellow Energy and Commerce Committee members to support the advancement of the bill out of committee.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Lisa Allomong  
Director/Founder  
Hosanna Horse Haven, INC  
hosannahorsehaven@gmail.com  
cell-419-551-3405