



Animal Welfare Institute

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**Liz Clancy Ross
Federal Policy Advisor
Animal Welfare Institute**

**Testimony before the
United States House of Representatives
Committee on the Judiciary
The Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security**

**Hearing on H.R. 6598, the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008
Thursday July 31, 2008**

My name is Liz Clancy Ross, and I serve as federal policy advisor to the Animal Welfare Institute in Washington, D.C. I am grateful for the opportunity to testify before the committee today in favor of the Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008.

With more than two decades of experience as an animal protection professional, I have had the honor of working with legislators in the United States Congress, the British Parliament and the European Parliament and Commission on a number of animal welfare measures. With a specialty in equine protection, I have been integrally involved in the legislative effort to end the slaughter of horses for human consumption since the national campaign began in 2001

In addition to my legislative work to improve equine welfare, I am a founding member of The Homes for Horses Coalition, an alliance of equine advocacy and rescue groups proactively promoting improvements in equine welfare including ending horse slaughter and placing horses in need of new quarters. On another front, my organization, the Animal Welfare Institute, recently entered into a collaborative project with the National Black Farmers Association (NBFA) called Project Wanted Horse through which at-risk horses will be placed on NBFA-owned farms.

I also serve on the Board of Directors of the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, an independent non-profit organization providing oversight and professional assistance to animal sanctuaries worldwide – including equine rescue facilities - to ensure the provision of exceptional care to the animals in their charge. It is with this strong background in equine protection in mind that I come before the committee today to ask that you promptly pass H.R. 6598, the Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008, into law.

I first became aware that horses were being slaughtered in this country for human consumption overseas when I was contacted in 2000 by a woman who frequented the New Holland Livestock Sale in Pennsylvania. She urged me to attend the auction, which is held every Monday and through which hundreds of horses are sold each week, so that I could see first-hand the brutal manner in which many of the horses there were being treated. It is a known fact that many of the horses sold at New Holland end up being slaughtered for high-end diners in Europe and Asia.

I made my first journey to New Holland that April, arriving late on a Sunday night to see the horses being brought in for sale the next morning. While many of the horses there were beautiful animals who would certainly end up in good homes others had clearly been neglected or abused. Dozens of horses were already in the kill-pens destined for slaughter. Of those horses that went through the auction ring I was able to purchase three, all of whom undoubtedly would have otherwise gone to slaughter. One was in such bad shape that she should have never been brought through the ring and we had her euthanized on the spot. The other two were placed at an equine rescue facility in New Jersey where they still live today. Hundreds of other horses that day were not so lucky. Although most of the animals were healthy and marketable, they were loaded into cramped trailers with unfamiliar horses and endured lengthy trips across hundreds of miles to the then-functional slaughterhouses in Illinois and Texas where they were brutally slaughtered.

The pure animal suffering and terror I witnessed that day at New Holland was so fundamentally disturbing as was everything I subsequently learned about the horse slaughter industry that upon returning to my office in Washington I began formulating ideas with my colleague at the Animal Welfare Institute, Chris Heyde, on how to tackle this issue legislatively. We had the honor of working with then Representative Connie Morella (R-MD), who sponsored the first incarnation of The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act, the predecessor to the Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act 2008.

The bill was first introduced in the 107th Congress by Representative Morella and was referred to the House Agriculture Committee where it languished. While bipartisan support for the measure continued to grow, the bill met a similar fate in the 108th Congress. At the start of the 109th Congress we worked with its sponsors to redraft the bill so that it would be referred to the House Energy & Commerce Committee. A companion bill was introduced in the Senate and both gained enormous Congressional and public support, with the House version (H.R. 503) going to the floor and passing by a landslide vote of 263-146-1.

Unfortunately, the Senate did not act in like style and the bill's sponsors were therefore compelled to reintroduce the bill at the start of the 110th Congress. To date that bill, The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (H.R. 503/S. 311) has 206 and 39 cosponsors

respectively but, despite being approved by the Senate Commerce Committee, is once again languishing in a House committee.

Attempts to hamper horse slaughter via the appropriations process have also hit a dead-end. Although both the House and the Senate passed language via the Fiscal Year 2006 and 2008 Agriculture Appropriations Bills designed to halt horse slaughter, the move has been circumvented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Meanwhile tens of thousands of American horses continue to be slaughtered by foreign-owned companies for human consumption overseas.

Mr. Chairman, there is an urgent need to address this form of abject animal cruelty head-on with sound federal legislation, which is why I am before your committee today advocating speedy passage of H.R. 6598, the Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008. As you know, horses are not being slaughtered currently on U.S. soil following the closure last year of the three remaining slaughter plants – all of which were foreign-owned – under Texas and Illinois state law. However, our horses are still being horrifically butchered for their meat to feed luxury diners abroad and to line a few foreign pockets. They simply are being transported further to Canada and Mexico where, if imaginable, conditions are even worse than they were here. Furthermore, there is the distinct possibility that with the current patchwork of state laws specific to horse slaughter, processing plants could begin to operate in states with lesser laws than those of Texas, Illinois and California. The United States Congress can and must pass H.R. 6598 into law so that we can ensure that our horses are no longer subjected to this ugly and wholly un-American trade.

I'd like to take this opportunity to address some of the fallacious arguments I've heard presented against this bill and the larger effort to end horse slaughter. But before I start I would like to point out that the lobbyists leading the effort against this bill and against ending horse slaughter are on the payrolls of the horse slaughter facilities and thus clearly have a vested interest in keeping the industry alive regardless of the facts. My colleagues and I, on the other hand, have nothing to gain from ending horse slaughter except to know that we will have ended an egregious form of horse abuse that the vast majority of Americans detest.

The first claim our opponents like to make is that we actually need horse slaughter, that it is a "necessary evil" without which horses would suffer neglect and abuse. In fact, they have gone so far as to suggest that banning horse slaughter would be irresponsible and would actually harm America's horses. Mr. Chairman, as someone who has dedicated her life to protecting animals from abuse and neglect I can tell you that ending horse slaughter will be enormously beneficial to horses. It will also be good for horse owners. Following California's ban on horse slaughter the state witnessed a 34% drop in horse theft, a trend that will undoubtedly be replicated nationwide when the slaughter market is finally closed. Prior to this campaign there

was little discussion about ending indiscriminate breeding, providing for a horse's long-term care and so much more. Generally speaking, the campaign to end horse slaughter has already had a very positive effect on horses and that will only continue into the future.

Despite claims to the contrary, horse slaughter doesn't exist to provide a humane method for disposing of old and unwanted horses. It exists because there is money to be made from the trade, in this case by several foreign owned companies. The truth is that very few horses are purposely sold to slaughter by their owners. Instead, most horse owners do the right thing and have their horses humanely euthanized by a licensed veterinarian when the time comes. The cost – approximately \$225 – is simply a part of responsible horse ownership and is the right thing to do.

As for the question of what to do with horse carcasses if slaughter is removed as an option, consider that approximately 920,000 horses die annually in this country (10 percent of an estimated population of 9.2 million) and the vast majority are not slaughtered, but euthanized and rendered or buried without any negative environmental impact. Well over 100,000 American horses were slaughtered in 2007. If slaughter were no longer an option and these horses were rendered or buried instead, this would represent a small increase in the number of horses being disposed of in this manner - an increase that the current infrastructure can certainly sustain. However, most slaughter-bound horses are marketable, healthy horses and needn't be lethally disposed of.

There can be no doubt that horse slaughter is a brutal process from beginning to end. Killer-buyers – the men who frequent the livestock auctions where they purchase horses from unknowing sellers for resale to the foreign-owned slaughterhouses - have no regard for the horses' welfare. Because the horses' final destination is slaughter, little concern is paid to their treatment when they are collected, during transport or in the slaughterhouse. A former equine investigator for the Pennsylvania state police summed this industry up perfectly when she said "...horses were deprived of food and water because they were going to slaughter anyway. My conclusion is that the slaughter option actually encourages neglect."

I'd also like to speak to the idea that animal protection advocates have increased animal suffering by campaigning for the closure of domestic horse slaughter plants under state law. The citizens in those states wanted the plants gone and in the absence of a federal law prohibiting the trade, the states of Illinois and Texas invoked their right to control what happens to horses within their own state lines. However, the ultimate goal for genuine equine advocates has always been passage of the federal bill, and were it not for the tactics of our opponents – who publicly decry the increased shipment of horses over our borders for slaughter while actively working with the slaughterhouses to lobby against the very bill that

would shut the trade down – we would not be before you today asking for your help in ending this atrocity. The trade would have been stopped long ago.

There has been a concerted campaign of misinformation by those who wish to perpetuate the horse slaughter trade, and a key tenant of that campaign has been the ludicrous position that horse slaughter is a form of humane euthanasia. While the mechanism used in some slaughterhouses – the captive-bolt gun – can in theory be used by a trained veterinarian to euthanize a horse, the similarity between truly humane euthanasia and slaughter ends there. I know of no veterinarian nor have I heard of one who would advocate the captive bolt gun as a means of euthanasia aside perhaps from those lobbying against this bill. Chemical euthanasia is the primary means while some individuals and veterinarians may use a single gunshot in certain circumstances.

In slaughter, horses suffer long before they reach the slaughterhouse. Cramped onto double-deck trailers designed for cattle and sheep, horses travel in a bent manner for more than twenty-four hours without food, water or rest. In fact, so paltry are current regulations and so brutal is the trade that heavily pregnant mares, blind horses and those with broken limbs are regularly sent to slaughter.

At the slaughterhouse the horses are unloaded and handled in a savage manner. Prodded into the kill box they are often hit in the head multiple times by slaughterhouse workers. Simply put, it is disingenuous and factually incorrect to suggest that horse slaughter is a form of humane euthanasia. The use of a captive-bolt gun in any circumstance is strongly criticized by the Veterinarians for Equine Welfare in their recent white paper on horse slaughter, which can be found on their website.

It is also noteworthy that in Mexico the captive-bolt gun is often passed over in preference to the “puntilla” knife which is used to stab the horse in the spinal cord to the point of paralysis before the animal is strung up and quartered, often while still alive. In fact, one of the Mexican plants that was the subject of an undercover investigation exposing this horrific practice employs lobbyists who work the halls of Congress to defeat this bill. Mr. Chairman, this is pure animal cruelty, through and through, and it must end.

I’d also like to address the notion that the current campaign to end horse slaughter – including the closure of the country’s remaining plants – has led to a flood of ‘unwanted’ horses in America. The same number of horses is going to slaughter now as was prior to the plants’ closures. There has also been a huge drop in the number of horses going to slaughter in the past few decades, from a high of more than 350,000 horses in 1990 to just over 120,000 last year, yet there has been no correlating epidemic of ‘unwanted’ horses in our streets and fields.

The Animal Welfare Institute has looked into claims of abandoned horses and they are largely unfounded. There is, however, a very real economic crunch that everyone is feeling including horse owners. Rising fuel prices combined with rising hay prices as a result of severe drought are negatively impacting horse owners, not the closure of the slaughter plants in Illinois and Texas. While the U.S. based, foreign-owned plants have closed, their killer buyers are still operating throughout the country collecting horses at a rate higher than last year. Currently people still have the option of taking their horses to auctions to find buyers, including killer buyers, should they choose to exercise this option. If horses are being abandoned and abused it clearly has nothing to do with the horse slaughter industry. To claim otherwise is pure fantasy and exists solely as a political shell game and not a valid concern.

Some have questioned whether it makes sense to take the Judiciary route to address the issue of horse slaughter. I would respond that this is a perfect fit. Not only is there legislative precedence for doing so (an earlier incarnation of the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act, H.R. 503 from the 108th Congress, which had 228 cosponsors allowed for penalties to be assessed under Title 18 of the U.S. Code) but horse slaughter, in every respect, is a form of animal cruelty and ought to be recognized and treated as such. Should there remain any doubt in your minds about the level of cruelty involved in this trade, I have included a series of graphic photographs at the end of my testimony depicting horses during their trip to slaughter. One need only glance at these images to begin to understand the atrocities that are being committed against America's horses in the name of profit.

The bill's sponsors have, therefore, rightly sought to criminalize equine cruelty under Title 18 of the U.S. Code but have done so in a most responsible manner, using a tiered penalty system whereby first-time offenders will be charged with a misdemeanor. Second time offenders or those found to be moving five or more horses in violation of the statute would be charged with the lowest felony available, a Class E felony. Further, the sponsors have restricted possible prison time under the felony provision beyond that allowed under Title 18. Also, knowledge of and intent to commit a crime must be proven by a prosecutor. In short, this is responsible legislation that sets a high burden of proof to ensure that only those truly guilty of committing equine cruelty will be affected.

Mr. Chairman, America is long overdue in ending horse slaughter. This issue has been vetted in Congress on multiple occasions and every time any measure to prohibit or restrict horse slaughter comes up for a vote the tally is overwhelming in favor of ending this form of animal cruelty. This should come as no surprise. Affected states have taken as much action as they can. The American people have made their opposition to horse slaughter quite clear. Poll after poll reflects this desire, including one from the Great State of Virginia, which found that 67% of those surveyed agreed horse slaughter should be stopped. Support is also reflected on the

Animal Welfare Institute's impressively long list of animal protection and equine rescue groups, celebrities, industry leaders and others who have publicly endorsed the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act, a copy which has been submitted for the record as well.

Every five minutes an American horse is slaughtered to fill the demand of high-end European and Asian diners. Americans do not raise horses for slaughter, nor do we eat them yet tens of thousands of our horses continue to be brutally butchered annually to satisfy the palates of overseas consumers. These are our pets, our work horses, our race horses and our wild horses and they are suffering unimaginable pain and terror so that a handful of foreign-owned companies can profit. Mr. Chairman, there can be no doubt that horse slaughter is a form of animal cruelty which must be stopped. We respectfully request that the United States Congress act now to end this animal cruelty by swiftly passing the Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act into law.

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, thank you for your time and your consideration of this important bill. I look forward to working with the sponsors as it makes its way through Congress.



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WARNING: Following pages contain graphic photos of horse abuse, suffering and death.

The practice of horse slaughter inflicts cruelty on horses from beginning to end. The following photos depict actual cases of abuse, neglect and death from various stages of the process as a result of the horse slaughter industry. All avoidable and all preventable with passage of H.R. 6598, the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008.

At livestock auction:

Photo 1: Dying mare at the Sugarcreek Livestock auction in Ohio. She was brought in early that morning and collapsed in the pen. She was left there all day. The auction veterinarian refused to euthanize her since it would draw too much public attention. Photo by Animals' Angels

At feedlot awaiting transport to Mexican horse slaughterhouse:

Photo 2: Dead mare inside the Morton feedlot in Texas. The green USDA slaughter tag is still attached to her forehead. From here horses are reloaded onto double-deck trucks for the trip to the Mexican horse slaughterhouse. Photo by Animals' Angels

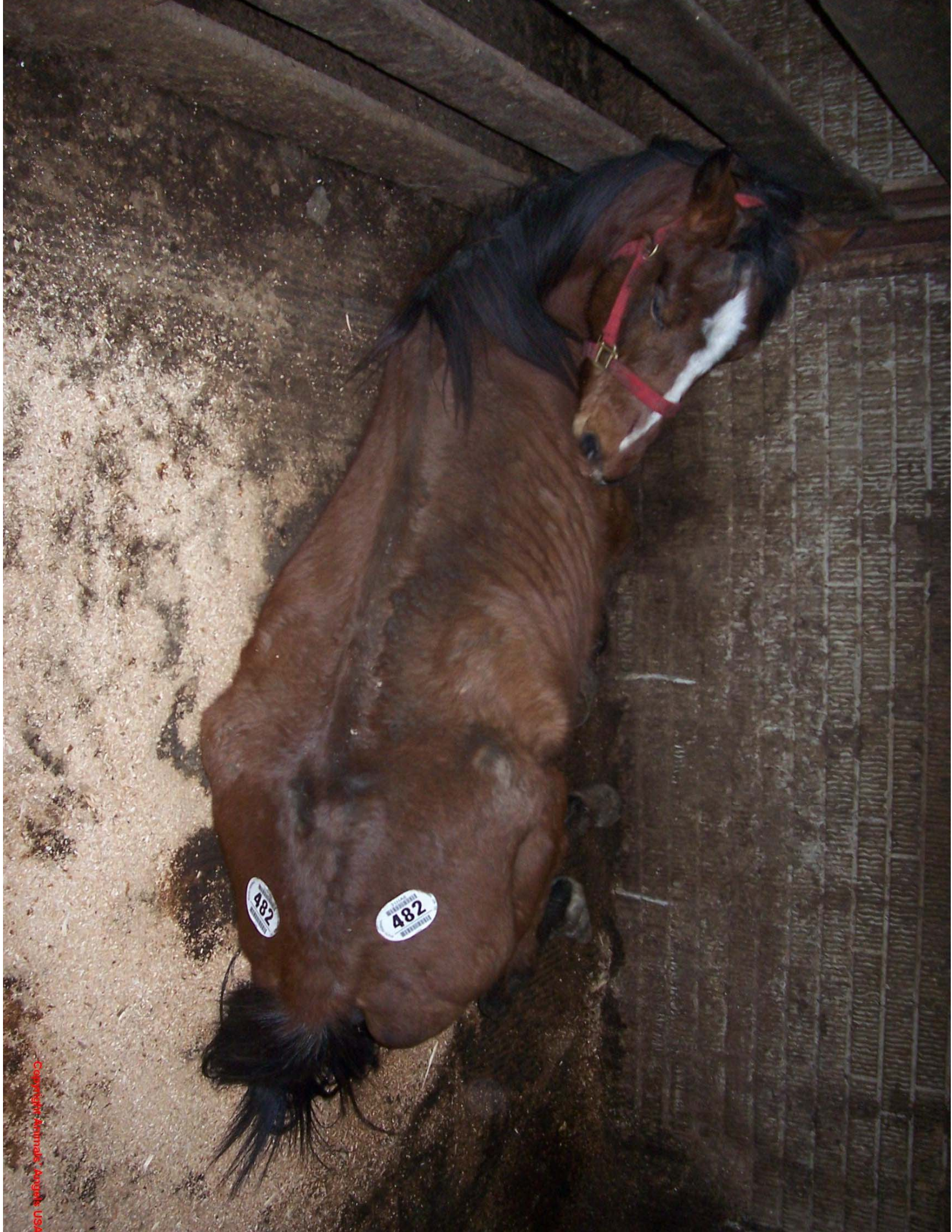
Being transported from auction to horse slaughterhouse:

Photos 3&4: A horse in Texarkana, Arkansas, found beaten and crammed onto a horse trailer being transported to slaughter with 18 other horses. The tire shop manager who discovered this trailer full of horses stated, "it looked like someone took a baseball bat and beat the hell out of the horse."

Photo 5: Several dead and live horses still stuck on an overturned double deck trailer that crashed in Missouri on its way to Cavel International horse slaughterhouse in DeKalb, IL. Sixteen horses out of 41 died in this accident.

At slaughterhouse:

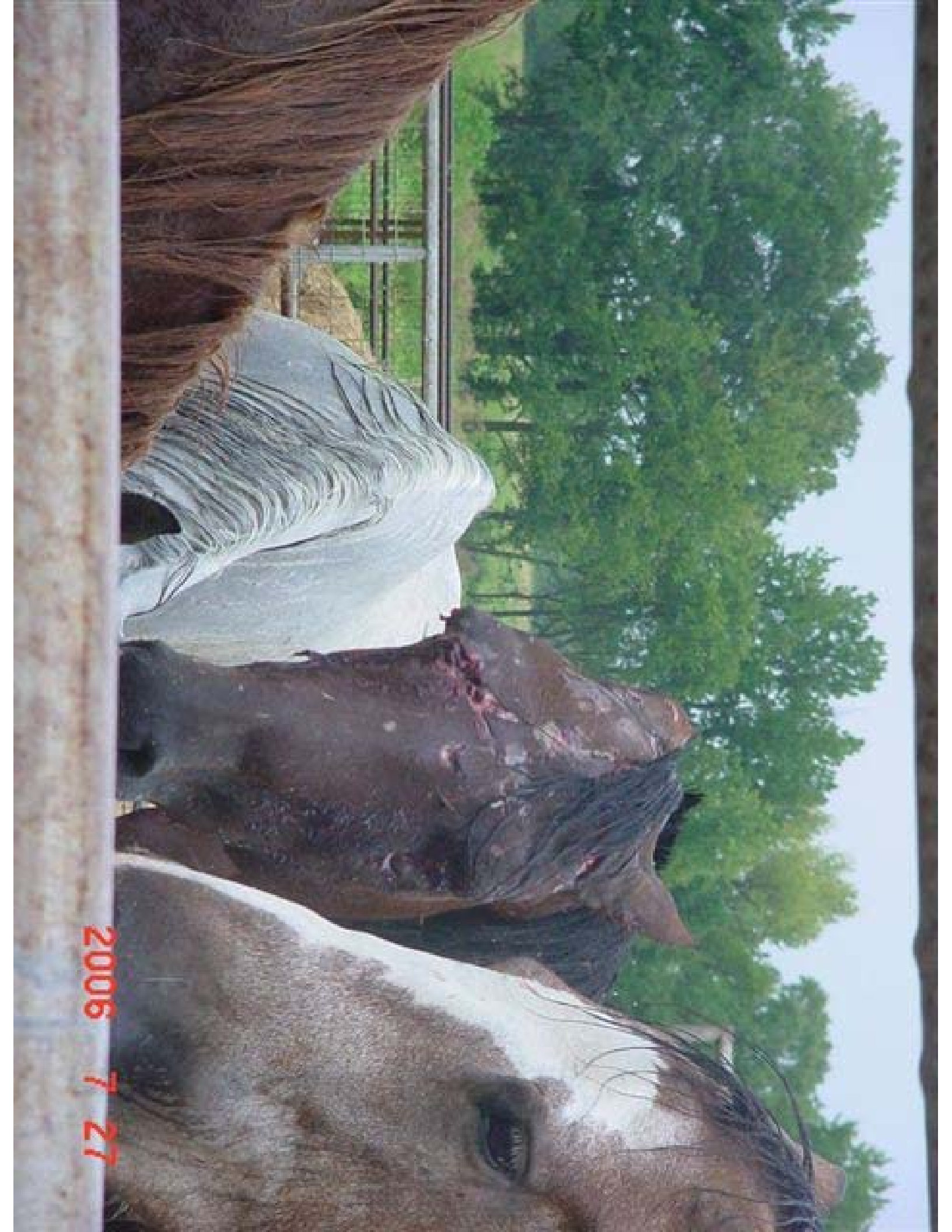
Photo 6: Photo by Gail Eisnitz showing the improper application of a captive bolt gun. The horse's head has moved and the worker is applying the captive bolt to a location above the animal's eye.





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July 28, 2008

Dear Representative:

RE: Support the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008 (H.R. 6598)

We urge you to **SUPPORT H.R. 6598, the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008** introduced by House Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers, Representative Dan Burton and 10 of their colleagues, to prevent the cruel and predatory practice of transporting American horses to slaughter in the US and prohibit their export for the same purpose. The **Conyers-Burton Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008 (H.R. 6598)** will put an end to an extremely cruel practice, which claims all breeds, ages, sizes and conditions of horse. The majority of Americans, horse industry organizations, veterinarians and horse owners are outraged that our horses are being brutally slaughtered and want the practice to end. We strongly support this legislation and are pleased to provide any assistance we can to ensure its swift passage into law.

**SUPPORTERS OF
ENDING HORSE SLAUGHTER**

National Humane Groups

American Horse Defense Fund
American Sanctuary Association
The American Standardbred Adoption Program, Inc.
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Animal Legal Defense Fund
Animal Protection Institute
Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights
Doris Day Animal League
Episcopal Network for Animal Welfare
The Equestrian Society - United States
The Exceller Fund
FOSH (Friends of Sound Horses)
The Fund for Animals
Habitat for Horses
Hooved Animal Humane Society
The Humane Society of the United States
IJA (Independent Judges Association)
The Pegasus Foundation
The Progressive Animal Welfare Society
The National Humane Education Society
Society for Animal Protective Legislation
United Animal Nations
United Equine Foundation
Veterinarians for Equine Welfare

National Humane Groups (cont')

United States Equine Sanctuary & Rescue
Veterinarians for Equine Welfare
Wild Horse and Burro Freedom Alliance
World Society for the Protection of Animals

Celebrity Supporters

Ed Asner
Mrs. Gene Autry
Shane Barbi-Wahl
Sia Barbi
Barbara Bosson
Bruce Boxleitner
Jeff Bridges
Christie Brinkley
Keely and Pierce Brosnan
Kenny Chesney
Leonard Cohen
Rita Coolidge
Stewart Copeland
John Corbett
Alex Cord
Catherine Crier, Court TV
James Cromwell
Tony and Jill Curtis
Ellen DeGeneres
Ron Delsener - Ron Delsener Presents
Bo Derek
Clint Eastwood
Mike Epps
Will Estes
Shelley Fabares
Morgan Fairchild
Mike Farrell
Morgan Freeman
Kinky Friedman
Melissa Gilbert
Whoopi Goldberg
Jane Goodall, PhD.
Merv Griffin
Arlo Guthrie
Gene Hackman
Merle Haggard
Jack Hanna, Director Emeritus, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Columbus, Ohio
Daryl Hannah
Tess Harper
Tippi Hedren
Mariel Hemingway
Laura Hillenbrand - author of Seabiscuit
Shooter Jennings
George Jones

Celebrity Supporters (con't)

Ashley Judd

Toby Keith

Eddie Kilroy, Program Director, "Willie's Place" XM 13

Carole King

Johnny Knoxville

Carson Kressley

Kris Kristofferson

Chief Arvol Looking Horse - 19th generation keeper of the White Buffalo Calf Pipe Bundle and holds the responsibility of spiritual leader among the Lakota, Dakota and Nakota People

George Lopez

Mrs. Roger (Mary) Miller

Steve Miller

Mary Tyler Moore

Sir Paul McCartney

Ali McGraw

Jesse & Joy McReynolds of Jim & Jesse and the Virginia Boys - Entertainer, Member of the Grand Ole Opry, Bluegrass Music legend

Connie Nelson - Outlaw Management

Willie Nelson

Olivia Newton-John

Tatjana Patitz

Alexandra Paul

Ray Price

The late Richard and Jennifer Lee Pryor

Bonnie Raitt

Carl Reiner

Keith Richards

Eric Roberts

Dale Robertson

Kid Rock

Theresa Russell

William Shatner

Nicollette Sheridan

Chris Shivers - two-time PBR World Champion

Paul Sorvino

Mira Sorvino

Marty Stuart

Loretta Swit

Bernie Taupin

Billy Bob Thornton

Rob Thomas

Marisol Thomas

John Trudell

Tanya Tucker

Shania Twain

Ken Wahl

Mike White - 1999 PRCA World Champion

Noah Wylie

Dwight Yoakam

National Horse Industry Organizations

American Walking Pony Association
The American Holsteiner Horse Association, Inc.
The American Sulphur Horse Association
American Indian Horse Registry
Blue Horse Charities
Campaigning For Barbaro
Churchill Downs Incorporated
Eaton & Thorne
Eaton Sales, Inc.
Fasig-Tipton Company, Inc.
Hambletonian Society, Inc.
Horse Industry Partners
Hughs Management
International Pleasure Walking Horse Registry
Keeneland Association Inc.
Magna Entertainment Corp.
National Show Horse Registry
National Steeplechase Association, Inc.
National Thoroughbred Racing Association
New Jersey Racing Commission
New Jersey Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association
New York Racing Association
New York State Thoroughbred Racing and Development Fund Corporation
New York Thoroughbred Breeders, Inc.
Ocala Breeder's Sales Company (OBS)
Palomino Horse Association, Int.
Racetrack Chaplaincy of America
Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau
Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation
United States Eventing Association

Horse Industry Leaders

Josephine Abercrombie – Owner, Pin Oak Stud
Joe L. Allbritton – Owner, Lazy Lane Farms, Inc.
Peggy Augustus – Owner, Keswick Farm
Niall and Stephanie Brennan – Niall Brennan Stables
Nadia Sanan Briggs – Padua Stables
Maggie O. Bryant – Locust Hill Farm
W. Cothran "Cot" Campbell – Dogwood Stables
Norman Casse – Chairman of the Ocala Breeder's Sales Company (OBS)
Nick and Jaqui de Meric – Nick de Meric Bloodstock
Richard L. Duchossois – Chairman, Arlington Park
Tracy & Carol Farmer – Owners, Shadowlawn Farm
John Fort – Peachtree Racing Stable
John Gaines – the late founder of the Breeder's Cup World Thoroughbred Championship
Gainesway Farm
GaWaNi Pony Boy
Randy Hartley – Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds
Charles E. Hayward – President and CEO, New York Racing Association, Inc.
John Hettinger – Owner, Akindale Farm, Principal stockholder Fasig-Tipton Co, Inc.,
Chairman Emeritus Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation, Trustee NY Racing
Association

Horse Industry Leaders (con't)

Tom Meeker – Churchill Downs
 Reiley McDonald – Partner, Eaton Sales
 Herb and Ellen Moelis – Candyland Farm
 Nick Nicholson – President and Chief Executive Officer, Keeneland Association
 Madeline Paulson Pickens – Owner/Breeder
 George Stout – National Cutting Horse Association Members Hall of Fame
 Frank Stronach – CEO, Magna Entertainment
 Dan and Jocelyn Sumerel – Sumerel Training and Therapy
 Becky Thomas – Sequel Bloodstock
 D.G. Van Clief, Jr. – NTRA Commissioner, CEO & Breeders' Cup President
 Walnut Hall Limited
 Donna Ward
 Marylou Whitney and John Hendrickson – owners of BIRDSTONE, 2004 Belmont Stakes winner
 Russell Williams – VP, Hanover Shoe Farm

Kentucky Derby Winning Owners

Roy and Gretchen Jackson (BARBARO – 2006)
 Jerry and Ann Moss (GIACOMO – 2005)
 Patricia Chapman (SMARTY JONES - 2004)
 Sackatoga Stable, Jack Knowlton, Managing Partner (FUNNY CIDE - 2003)
 John and Debby Oxley (MONARCHOS - 2001)
 Beverly Lewis (CHARISMATIC-1999, SILVER CHARM - 1997)
 Mike Pegram (REAL QUIET - 1998)
 William T. Young, Jr, Overbrook Farm LLC (GRINDSTONE - 1996)
 Joseph and Eileen Cornacchia (GO FOR GIN - 1994, STRIKE THE GOLD - 1991)
 Bill Condren (GO FOR GIN - 1994, STRIKE THE GOLD - 1991)
 Mrs. Paul Mellon (SEA HERO - 1993)
 Arthur and Staci Hancock (SUNDAY SILENCE - 1989, GATO DEL SOL - 1982)
 Howard Keck, Jr. (FERDINAND - 1986)
 Dell Hancock (SWALE - 1984)
 Bert and Diana Firestone (GENUINE RISK - 1980)
 Penny Chenery (SECRETARIAT - 1973, RIVA RIDGE - 1972)

Thoroughbred Trainers and Jockeys

Jerry Bailey – Hall of Fame Jockey
 W.A. "Jimmy" Croll, Jr – Hall of Fame Trainer
 Neil Drysdale - Hall of Fame Trainer
 Julie Krone – Hall of Fame Jockey
 Chris McCarron - Hall of Fame Jockey
 Richard Mandella - Hall of Fame Trainer
 Gary Stevens - Hall of Fame Jockey
 Nick Zito – Two-time Kentucky Derby Winning and Hall of Fame Trainer

Horse Industry Press

Horse Connection Magazine
 Living Legends Magazine
 Natural Horse Magazine
 Texas Horse Talk Magazine
 The Gaited Horse
 The United States Harness Writers Association

Political Leaders

The Honorable Robert J. Dole (R-KS), former US Senator
The Honorable Charles Grandison Rose, III (D-NC), former US Congressman
The Honorable James Albon "Jim" Mattox (D-TX) former US Congressman and Texas Attorney General
The Honorable David M. McIntosh (R-IN) former US Congressman

Corporate Leaders

Les Alexander - Owner, Houston Rockets
Gary Bisantz - Founder, Cobra Golf Clubs
Alex Campbell - Chairman, Shakertown & Triangle Foundation
Jess S. Jackson and Barbara R. Banke - Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates
Summerfield Johnston - Retired Chairman and CEO, Coca-Cola Enterprises
Robert McNair - Owner, The Houston Texans
Paul Orefice - former Chairman Dow Chemical Co, Inc.
T. Boone Pickens - Founder and CEO, BPCapital
Leonard Riggio - Founder and CEO, Barnes & Noble
Satish Sanan - Chairman and CEO, Zavata, Inc.
Richard Santulli - Chairman, Net Jets
Barry Schwartz - Co-Founder, Calvin Klein Inc.
Nina DiSesa - Chairman, McCann Erickson New York
J.V. Shields - Chairman and CEO, Shields & Co., Wall Street, NYC
George Steinbrenner - Owner, New York Yankees
George Strawbridge - Private Investor
Stuart Subotnick - General Partner and Chief Operating Officer, Metro Media
Daniel V. Tully - Ex CEO Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith
William Ziff - Ziff Brothers Investments, New York City

Alabama

Dusty Trails Horse Rescue, Inc.
Mobile SPCA
The Peruvian Pasobilities Mounted Drill Team
Peruvian Drill and Trail Club

Alaska

Alaska Equine Rescue
Haines Animal Rescue Kennel

Arizona

Arizona Racing Commission
Conquistador Equine Rescue Program (In Defense of Animals)
Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary
Hacienda de los Milagros, Inc.
The Horse Rescue of North Scottsdale Inc.
Humane Education Club - Barry Goldwater High School (Phoenix)
In Defense of Animals At Arizona State University (Student Organization)
Keepers of the Wild
Morningstarr Animal Sanctuary
Superstition Horse Ranch
Sheriff Joseph M. Arpaio, Sheriff of Maricopa County - "America's Toughest Sheriff"
Wildhorse Ranch Rescue
Whisper's Sanctuary

Arkansas

ARTEX Animal Welfare
Humane Society of Clark County
Humane Society of Marion County

California

California Coastal Horse Rescue
California Equine Retirement Foundation
Cooper Racing (Carol Cooper) – Qtr Horse Breeding, Training and Layups
Dignity After Racing, D.A.R.
East Bay Animal Advocates
Hooves for Hope
Jack Auchterlonie Memorial Equine Sanctuary (J.A.M.E.S.)
Lifesavers Wild Horse Rescue
Return to Freedom Wild Horse Sanctuary
Standardbred Rescue
The Piedra Foundation
Tranquility Farm
United Pegasus Foundation

Colorado

Aba Bahabas Arabians
Colorado Horse Rescue
The Epona Project Horse Rescue
Front Range Equine Rescue
Love Can't Wait Pony Rescue
Lucky Three Ranch, Inc.
Nordquist Arabians
Political Voice for Animals
Project Equus
Spring Creek Horse Rescue

Connecticut

National Institute for Animal Advocacy
The Humane Organization Representing Suffering Equines (H.O.R.S.E.) of Connecticut, Inc.

Delaware

[Delaware General Assembly](#) - Resolution calling for passage of the American Horse
Slaughter Prevention Act
The SummerWinds Stables
Whimsical Equine Rescue

Florida

Aloha Equestrian Center
Caring Fields Animal Sanctuary
Darlynn's Darlins Inc.
Dreamfinder Farms, Inc.
F.R.I.E.N.D.S. (Florida Research Institute for Equine Nurturing, Development and Safety)
Horse Protection Association of Florida
Retirement Home for Horses
Saving Animals Via Education (S.A.V.E.)

Georgia

Big Sky Farm - Quarter Horse boarding and breeding facility
Browntree Farm
Georgia Equine Rescue League
Horse Rescue, Relief and Retirement Fund, Inc .
Magic Hollow Farms
STARS (Sound Trail And Rail Society, Inc.)
Sunkissed Acres Rescue and Retirement, Inc.
Triple "L" Horse Rescue, Inc.

Hawaii

Three Ring Ranch Animal Sanctuary
East Maui Animal Refuge
Keawewai Ranch

Idaho

Horse Haven Rescue
For the Love of Horses Rescue and Sanctuary

Illinois

Arlington Park Racecourse
Balmoral Park Racetrack
Blackberry Station Feed Store
Block Thoroughbred Farm
CANTER Illinois
Central Illinois Humane Society
Crosswinds Equine Rescue, Inc
Chicago Barn to Wire
Drexler Horse Transportation
Eastland Farm and Training Center
Fairberry Farm
Fairmount Park
Hawthorne National Racecourse
Hill 'N Dale Farm
Horsin' Around TV
Illinois Thoroughbred Horseman's Association
Illinois Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Foundation
Illinois Harness Horseman's Association
Illinois Horseman's Benevolent Protective Association
International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 727
John Marshall Law School, Animal Law Society, Chicago, IL
Manhattan Acres
Maywood Park Racetrack
Oak Tree Farm
Pam Kuhl Horse Transportation
RERUN Illinois
Shawnee Hills Farm
Three Way Farm
Top of the Hill Farm
Tower Farm

Indiana

Animal Protection Coalition
CANTOR of Indiana
Friends of Ferdinand
Indiana Horse Rescue
Indiana Horse Rescue Coalition, the Equine Division of the Animal Protection Coalition, Inc.

Iowa

Humane Society of North Central Iowa
Iowa City Animal Care and Adoption Center
Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission

Kansas

Animal Outreach of Kansas
Bourbon Road Animal Sanctuary
Lawrence Humane Society

Kentucky

Blairs Equine Rescue
Bluegrass Equine Products, Inc.
Brandeis Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
DreamCatcher Stables, Inc.
Hidden Creek Friesians
Holly's Place Animal Rescue
Home at Last animal sanctuary
Humane Society, A.L.L. of Madison County
Humane Society of Gallatin County
Kentucky Animal Relief Fund, Inc.
Kentucky Animal Rescue Alliance
The Kentucky Coalition for Animal Protection, Inc.
Kentucky Equine Humane Center
Lexington Humane Society
Marion Co. Humane Society, Inc.
Mountain View Rescue
Speak Up For Horses, Inc.
Wolfrun Wildlife Refuge, Inc.
Woodstock Animal Foundation

Louisiana

Aid for Animals and Humanity
The Coalition of Louisiana Animal Advocates

Maine

Barrel Race in Maine
Beckwith Stables
Downeast Border Riders Saddle Club

Maryland

The American Quarter Horse Rescue Organization
Celtic Rein Equine Rescue & Sanctuary, Inc.
Heather Knisley Racing
Horse Lovers United, Inc.
Horsenet Horse Rescue

Maryland (con't)

MidAtlantic Horse Rescue
University of Maryland Equestrian Club

Massachusetts

Kings Bridge Equine Rescue, Inc
M.S.P.C.A. at Nevins Farm
Pentucket Regional High School (S.A.V.E. Group and German Club)
Suffolk Downs

Michigan

Horses' Haven
C.A.N.T.E.R Michigan

Minnesota

Midwest Horse Adoption Program
Misfit Acres Inc.
Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue Foundation
Save Our Souls Equine Rescue

Mississippi

Humane Society of South Mississippi
Mississippi Horse Rescue

Missouri

Animal Protective Association of Missouri
Horses of Hope Missouri, Inc.
Humane Society of Missouri

Montana

Pryor Mountain Mustangs
Rolling Dog Ranch Animal Sanctuary
WindDancer Foundation

Nebraska

Angel Heart Rescue Ranch
Break Heart Ranch Horse Rescue
Epona Horse Rescue
Horse Rescue United
Lone Oak Farms
M & J Horses

Nevada

High Desert Equine Rescue
Miracle Horse Rescue, Inc.
Shiloh Horse Rescue and Sanctuary
Wild Horse Preservation League
Wild Horse Spirit, Ltd.

New Hampshire

Brown Lane Horse Farm
Independence Farm
Jill Lorenz - president, New Hampshire Horse Council
Linden Tree Riding Program
Live and Let Live Farm
The Runnymede Stables

New Jersey

Manes and Tails Organization
Save the Animals Foundation
Standardbred Retirement Foundation

New Mexico

A.N.N.A. - Animals Need No Abuse
Animal Protection of New Mexico
Independence Farm
Perfect Harmony Animal Rescue & Sanctuary
Walkin "N" Circles Equine Rescue Ranch
Wild Horse Observer's Association (W.H.O.A.)

New York

Animal Chat Room
Carpe Diem Equine Rescue, Inc. (NY, PA, NJ)
DMD Design
Equine Rescue Resource, Inc.
Equine Advocates
H.O.R.S.E. Rescue & Sanctuary
JMF Group, LLC
Suffolk County Legislature – Memorializing Resolution in support of the American Horse
Slaughter Prevention Act
Spring Farm CARES
Vassar Animal Rescue Coalition
Western New York Equine Sanctuary, Inc.

North Carolina

Jus Linda's Stables
North Carolina Equine Rescue League
Stillwater Farm

North Dakota

North Dakota Animal Acres
Tremont's Pet Sitting Service

Ohio

Angels4horses Adoption-Placement Foundation
Circle-B-Stables
Darvic's Equine Place
Last Chance Corral
Living Legend Arabians
Serenity Horse Rescue
Sound Horse Organization of Ohio

Oklahoma

Angel Horse Rescue, Inc.
Blaze's Tribute Equine Rescue, Inc.
Greener Pastures Horse Rescue Foundation
Prism PMU Foal and Horse Rescue

Oregon

Emerald Valley Equine Assistance Horse Rescue
Equine Angels Horse Rescue
Hooves and Halos Animal Rescue
HyTyme Equine Rescue
Tennessee Walking Horse Association
Whispering Winds Equine Rescue

Pennsylvania

Angel Acres Horse Haven Rescue Animal Care and Welfare/SPCA
Another Chance 4 Horses
Back in the Saddle Horse Adoption, Inc.
Bran Manor Equine Rescue & Placement
Bright Futures Farm
CANTOR Pennsylvania
Cozee Valee Farm
Eastern University Equestrian Team
Lost and Found Horse Rescue
OohMahNee Farm Animal Sanctuary
Pennsylvania SPCA
R.A.C.E Fund, Inc.
Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines

Rhode Island

Horse Play
New England Equine Rescues (cover RI, CT, MA, NH, VT, ME and NY)
Potter League for Animals

South Carolina

Equus Sorority
Hollow Creek Farm Equine Rescue
Neverending Farms Horse Rescue
Palmetto Equine Awareness & Rescue League (P.E.A.R.L.®)

South Dakota

Black Hills Wild horse Sanctuary
Helping Hands Equine Rehabilitation and Rescue
Horse Help Providers, Inc.

Tennessee

Egyptian Cross Arabians
Horse Haven of Tennessee
Misfit Ranch

Texas

Animal Connection of Texas
Animal Sanctuary of the United States/Wild Animal Orphanage
Austin Zoo
Black Beauty Ranch
Brighter Days Horse Refuge
City of Flower Mound, TX
Common Ground Foundation
Creekside Farm Rescue
The Crows Nest Miniature Horse Farm
Greater Houston Horse Council
Lone Star Equine Rescue, Inc.
Lone Star Park
Madden Investigations
Oak Cliff Breeders
The Queenie Foundation
R-9 Ranch
Sound Horse Organization of Texas
Texans for Horses
SPCA of Texas
The Texas Federation of Humane Societies
Texas Humane Legislation Network
Texas EquuSearch Mounted Search and Recovery Team
Texas Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association
Utopia Animal Rescue Ranch
Wild Horse & Burro Refuge & Registry

Utah

Best Friends Animal Society
Desert Duns Sulphur Horse Ranch
Sound Horse Organization of Utah

Vermont

H.O.R.S.E. of Vermont
The Humane Organization for Un-Raceable Standardbred Equines, Inc.

Virginia

Ches-N-Oak Farms
Dream Catcher Farm Horse Sanctuary
Parkway Quarter Horse, Inc.
Virginia Thoroughbred Association
White Bird Appaloosa Horse Rescue - Stillwater Farm

Washington

Blue Mountain Humane Society
Columbia Basin Equine Rescue
Cowgirl Spirit Rescue Drill Team
Equine Rescue Association
For the Horses Equine Rescue
Save A Forgotten Equine (S.A.F.E.)

West Virginia

Santiburi Farm
Second Wind Adoption Program
West Virginia Equestrian Association
West Virginia Horse Center

Wisconsin

All God's Creatures Equestrian Center
American Standardbred Adoption Program
Animal Rescue and Farm Sanctuary
Midwest Horse Welfare Foundation, Inc.

Wyoming

Fair Dinkum Farm Equine Rescue
Hay Hounds for Horses
Wyoming Animal Network
Wyoming Alliance Against NAIS
Wyoming Horse Rescue
Wyoming Mustangs
Wy_Saddle-Up_Riders