

The Honorable Representative \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_:

As your constituent, I ask you to **cosponsor and vote YES on H.R. 6598, the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act**. This legislation bans the knowing and intentional possession, shipping, transporting, purchasing, selling, delivering or receiving of a horse for slaughter.

Court rulings closed America's last equine plants in Texas and Illinois. Still, racehorses, trail ponies, companion and wild horses are among those sold to killer-buyers at auctions. To reach faraway slaughter plants, horses travel in trucks built for smaller animals. Footage from Humane Society of the U.S. shows horses beaten and jammed into trailers in 100-degree heat. They arrive weak, dehydrated and injured. Some are dead by journey's end.

Horses are more excitable than other animals killed for food. Thus, their slaughter is especially horrific. Captive bolt pistols used to stun these long-necked animals often don't work, leaving horses thrashing in pain. At Mexican plants, each horse's neck is pierced with a "puntilla knife" until the spinal cord severs. Alert horses bob their heads as the blade stabs them around the withers. Finally, they collapse — paralyzed, but not dead. Some horses remain conscious as their bodies are dismembered.

H.R. 6589 identifies horse slaughter as animal cruelty under Title 18 of the U.S. Code. Opponents argue that equine slaughter is needed to "save" surplus horses from neglect and starvation. In fact, even more horses now go to kill plants across U.S. borders. This increase in slaughtered U.S. horses has not reduced known cases of horse neglect or starvation.

Violent slaughter should never be an alternative to remarketing, rescue, adoption or humane euthanasia. Horse slaughter and euthanasia are not the same thing. The first is vicious; the second is merciful.

Why are our horses still sent to kill floors in Canada and Mexico? Please cosponsor and vote **YES on H.R. 6598, the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act**.

Thank you,

## **SAMPLE PHONE CALL TO YOUR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS**

Hi, I am a constituent of Rep. **[INSERT YOUR REP'S LAST NAME]**. I am calling to ask **[HIM or HER]** to **cosponsor and vote YES on H.R. 6598, the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act**. This bill will end the slaughter of American horses for human consumption in other countries.

More of our horses than ever before go to kill plants across U.S. borders in Canada and Mexico. Family companions, racehorses, wild horses and others are violently killed with knives or guns. Some horses remain conscious as their bodies are dismembered.

**Please cosponsor and vote YES on H.R. 6598** — so we can end the cruel horse slaughter industry once and for all.