

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2966

To amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BARTLETT, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. PETERS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. LANCE, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. OLVER, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. CAPPs, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. WATT, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. MORAN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. JONES, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. STARK, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other

equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “American Horse
5 Slaughter Prevention Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON SHIPPING, TRANSPORTING, MOV-**
7 **ING, DELIVERING, RECEIVING, POSSESSING,**
8 **PURCHASING, SELLING, OR DONATION OF**
9 **HORSES AND OTHER EQUINES FOR SLAUGH-**
10 **TER FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.**

11 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the Horse Protection
12 Act (15 U.S.C. 1821) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), (3),
14 and (4) as paragraphs (2), (3), (5), and (6), respec-
15 tively;

16 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as redes-
17 igned by paragraph (1)) the following:

18 “(1) The term ‘human consumption’ means in-
19 gestion by people as a source of food.”; and

20 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) (as redesig-
21 nated by paragraph (1)) the following:

22 “(4) The term ‘slaughter’ means the killing of
23 1 or more horses or other equines with the intent to
24 sell or trade the flesh for human consumption.”.

1 (b) FINDINGS.—Section 3 of the Horse Protection
2 Act (15 U.S.C. 1822) is amended—

3 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through
4 (5) as paragraphs (6) through (10), respectively;

5 (2) by adding before paragraph (6) (as redesign-
6 nated by paragraph (1)) the following:

7 “(1) horses and other equines play a vital role
8 in the collective experience of the United States and
9 deserve protection and compassion;

10 “(2) horses and other equines are domestic ani-
11 mals that are used primarily for recreation, pleasure,
12 and sport;

13 “(3) unlike cows, pigs, and many other animals,
14 horses and other equines are not raised for the pur-
15 pose of being slaughtered for human consumption;

16 “(4) individuals selling horses or other equines
17 at auctions are seldom aware that the animals may
18 be bought for the purpose of being slaughtered for
19 human consumption;

20 “(5) the Animal and Plant Health Inspection
21 Service of the Department of Agriculture has found
22 that horses and other equines cannot be safely and
23 humanely transported in double deck trailers;”;

24 (3) by striking paragraph (8) (as redesignated
25 by paragraph (1)) and inserting the following:

1 “(8) the movement, showing, exhibition, or sale
2 of sore horses in intrastate commerce, and the ship-
3 ping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving,
4 possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation in intra-
5 state commerce of horses and other equines to be
6 slaughtered for human consumption, adversely affect
7 and burden interstate and foreign commerce;”.

8 (c) PROHIBITION.—Section 5 of the Horse Protection
9 Act (15 U.S.C. 1824) is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (8) through
11 (11) as paragraphs (9) through (12), respectively;
12 and

13 (2) by inserting after paragraph 7 the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “(8) The shipping, transporting, moving, deliv-
16 ering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or
17 donation of any horse or other equine to be slaugh-
18 tered for human consumption.”.

19 (d) AUTHORITY TO DETAIN.—Section 6(e) of the
20 Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1825(e)) is amended—

21 (1) by striking the first sentence of paragraph
22 (1);

23 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2)
24 and as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

1 (3) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as reded-
2 ignated by paragraph (2)) the following:

3 “(1) The Secretary may detain for examination, test-
4 ing, or the taking of evidence—

5 “(A) any horse at any horse show, horse exhi-
6 bition, or horse sale or auction that is sore or that
7 the Secretary has probable cause to believe is sore;
8 and

9 “(B) any horse or other equine that the Sec-
10 retary has probable cause to believe is being shipped,
11 transported, moved, delivered, received, possessed,
12 purchased, sold, or donated in violation of section
13 5(8).”.

14 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
15 12 of the Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1831) is
16 amended by striking “\$500,000” and inserting
17 “\$5,000,000”.

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