

# END KILL PENS & SLAUGHTER

SUPPORT THE SAVE AMERICA'S FORGOTTEN EQUINES (SAFE) ACT

## PASS THE SAFE ACT

- More than 21,000 horses are sent to slaughter annually, many of which have been given medications unsafe for human consumption.
- The slaughter process is unregulated, inhumane, and causes immense suffering.
- The passage of the SAFE Act will stop this cruelty and ensure a humane end for America's horses.

## THE REALITY OF KILL PENS

- **Inhumane Transport:** Horses endure long, painful journeys in cramped trailers, without food or water for days. Weaker horses are trampled or injured by stronger ones during transport.
- **Suffering at Kill Lots:** Kill pens are overcrowded, unsanitary, and provide little to no care. Many horses die from neglect or mistreatment before they even reach the slaughterhouse.
- **Unspeakable Cruelty:** Horses are sensitive, intelligent animals. They wait in fear in kill pens, facing a horrific end. Their suffering is unimaginable in their final days.

## THE CHANGE WE NEED

- **Responsible Breeding:** Breeders should take responsibility for their horses throughout their lives, ensuring they don't end up in kill pens.
- **Auction Awareness:** Know where your horses are going. Auctions are often filled with kill buyers posing as horse lovers.
- **Stricter Auction Rules:** Regulations should require humane conditions at auctions, kill lots, and during transport. Laws should be in place to punish or fine owners that dump their horses in a neglected or inhumane condition.
- **Put a Stop to Wild Horse Roundups:** Rounding up wild horses has resulted in mass incarceration, many of which end up in the kill pens.



# BE THE VOICE

## HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

### 1. CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

- Scan the QR code or visit <https://awionline.org/action-center#/443> to find and contact your elected officials. You have the option of emailing, calling, or messaging via Twitter.
- Urge them to pass the SAFE Act (H.R. 3475 / S.2037) to stop the shipment and slaughter of horses. Your voice matters in advocating for equines.
- If you are calling, you may say: “My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a constituent of Representative [Name]. Please protect American equines by supporting the Save America’s Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act, H.R. 3475. I also urge my Senators to support the SAFE Act, S. 2037.”
- The SAFE Act must pass through both chambers before becoming law. Time is of the essence as the 118th Congress ends on January 3, 2025. Don’t let this opportunity to protect our horses slip away.



### 2. SPREAD THE WORD

- Share this information with friends, family, and on social media to raise awareness about the horrors of kill pens and how the SAFE Act can end horse slaughter.

### 3. DEMAND AUCTION & TRANSPORT REGULATIONS

- If the slaughter pipeline continues, advocate for stricter laws at auctions and kill lots to ensure transparency and humane treatment. Push for better transport regulations so horses are treated with dignity.



**Together**, we can end equine slaughter and ensure a compassionate future for all horses, donkeys, and mules.

# HERE IS A TEMPLATE THAT CAN BE USED WHEN CONTACTING YOUR LEGISLATORS

**Subject: Urgent Request to Pass the SAFE Act (H.R. 3475 / S. 2037)**

Dear [Senator/Representative Name],

As your constituent, I am deeply concerned about the ongoing shipment of horses to kill pens and their inhumane slaughter in foreign countries. I am writing to ask you to cosponsor the bipartisan Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act (S. 2037 / H.R. 3475) and join with the over 80 percent of Americans who want to see horses, donkeys and mules protected from slaughter. The SAFE Act has overwhelming support from animal advocates, veterinarians, and the equestrian community, but it needs your voice in Congress.

Each year, over **21,000 American horses** are sent to Canada and Mexico for slaughter. The abuse and suffering inflicted by the predatory horse slaughter industry and kill lots are well documented. Kill buyers typically obtain healthy horses to send to slaughter, often from unsuspecting owners who believe their horse is going to a good home. The process is unregulated and inhumane, causing suffering to these intelligent and beautiful animals. Once in the slaughter pipeline, horses endure long and grueling journeys to slaughter plants in Canada or Mexico with no rest, water, or food. At the slaughterhouse, horses are forced into the "kill box" where they may endure repeated blows to the head and neck before being rendered unconscious. Due to their instinctive fight-or-flight reflex, some horses are inadequately stunned and remain conscious during the butchering process.

Furthermore, there is currently no system in the United States to track medications given to horses to ensure that horse meat is safe for human consumption. Horses are not raised for food and routinely receive medications and chemical treatments (e.g., phenylbutazone, fly spray, and de-wormers) that contain toxic ingredients and are expressly prohibited by the FDA for use in meat products.

By passing the SAFE Act, you can:

- **Stop the inhumane export of horses for slaughter.**
- **Ensure horses are protected from cruel treatment and transportation.**
- **Safeguard public health by preventing the consumption of toxic horse meat.**

**Please cosponsor and support H.R. 3475/S. 2037** to protect these beloved animals from this cruel fate. Thank you for your time and consideration on this urgent issue. Together, we can stop the suffering of America's horses, donkeys, and mules, and preserve their dignity.

Sincerely,

[Your Full Name]