

## Petition to outlaw the slaughtering of horses

I am writing to you as a voter in your district. I, and each of the other signors of this petition have had our addresses verified via a service that receives an email from their credit card processors that my account exists in your district. Therefore, you and your colleagues can be quite certain that we are your constituents.

We ask that the House of Representatives, Senate, and President Obama pass the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act of 2011, S.B. 1176/H.R. 2966, to ban the slaughter of horses for human consumption. This is particularly important for the following reasons:

View the Bill here <http://www.opencongress.org/bill/112-h2966/text>

- 1) Horses are revered for their contributions to the building of this country, their long-standing history of working alongside humans in a variety of tasks, their companionship, and their special bond with people;
- (2) Horses are not raised for the purpose of being slaughtered for human consumption, and, as a result, American horses are not raised, fed, and medicated within the FDA guidelines established for food animals, making them potentially unfit and unsafe for human consumption;
- (3) Horse slaughter is not humane euthanasia and does not allow for each animal to be respectfully treated as an individual;
- (4) President Obama made a campaign promise to permanently ban horse slaughter and exports of horses for human consumption; and
- (5) Allowing commercial horse slaughter for human consumption in the U.S. uses American tax dollars to support an industry that caters entirely to foreign interests, instead of directing those tax dollars to domestic interests.

As a result of spending bill H2112, slaughterhouses in the United States will be able to resume slaughtering horses for human consumption. We are not a nation that raises horses as food animals or one that consumes horse meat. Rather, horses are largely considered companion animals, more similar to dogs and cats than to animals raised for consumption. They should therefore be treated as such, and not subjected to mass slaughter.