

Bill as Introduced

HB 1446 - AS INTRODUCED

2012 SESSION

12-2263
08/05

HOUSE BILL **1446**

AN ACT relative to the meat inspection program.

SPONSORS: Rep. Harding, Graf 11; Rep. Haefner, Hills 27; Rep. Sad, Ches 2; Sen. Luther,
Dist 12

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

ANALYSIS

This bill excepts equines from inspection, processing, and sale as meat.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics**.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twelve

AN ACT relative to the meat inspection program.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Meat Food Product; Definition. Amend RSA 472:2, IV to read as follows:

2 IV. "Meat food product" means any product capable of use as human food which is made
3 wholly or in part from any meat or other portion of the carcass of any cattle, sheep, swine, or goats,
4 excepting products which contain meat or other portions of such carcasses only in a relatively small
5 portion or historically have not been considered by consumers as products of the meat food industry,
6 and which are exempted from definition as a meat food product by the commissioner under such
7 conditions as the commissioner may prescribe to assure that the meat or other portions of such
8 carcasses contained in such product are not adulterated and that such products are not represented
9 as meat food products. ~~[This term as applied to food products of equines shall have a meaning~~
10 ~~comparable to that provided in this paragraph with respect to cattle, sheep, swine, and goats.]~~

11 2 Meat Inspector; Definition. Amend RSA 472:2, XIX to read as follows:

12 XIX. "Meat inspector" means a person who examines and inspects all livestock, **excepting**
13 **equines**, and all carcasses and parts thereof, and all meat and meat food products thereof, and the
14 sanitary conditions of all establishments in which such meat and meat food products are prepared.

15 3 Establishment; Slaughter; Definitions. Amend RSA 472:2, XXI-XXII to read as follows:

16 XXI. "Establishment" means a facility in which livestock, **excepting equines**, or poultry are
17 slaughtered and packed or a facility in which meat food products are processed.

18 XXII. "Slaughter" means the act of killing livestock, **excepting equines**, for human
19 consumption.

20 4 Inspections; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 472:3-a, I(a) to read as follows:

21 (a) Procedures used in ante mortem and postmortem inspections, quarantine,
22 segregation, and reinspections with respect to the slaughter of livestock, **excepting equines**, and the
23 preparation of meat food products at all establishments in this state, including procedures for
24 obtaining access to establishments under RSA 427:6.

25 5 Rulemaking; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:3-a, II(d) to read as follows:

26 (d) Conditions under which carcasses, part of carcasses, meat, and meat food products of
27 livestock, **excepting equines**, capable of use as human food, shall be stored or otherwise handled by
28 any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of buying, selling, freezing, storing, or
29 transporting such articles in or for commerce. Such rules may be adopted whenever the
30 commissioner deems such action necessary to assure that such articles will not be adulterated or
31 misbranded when delivered to the consumer.

1 6 Examinations and Inspections; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:4, I-II to read as follows:

2 I. An examination and inspection of all livestock, *excepting equines*, before they shall be
3 allowed to enter into any slaughtering establishment in this state in which slaughtering and
4 preparation of meat and meat food products of such animals are conducted solely for commerce:

5 (a) All livestock, *excepting equines*, show symptoms of disease shall be set apart and
6 slaughtered separately from all other livestock; and

7 (b) When so slaughtered, the carcasses of said livestock, *excepting equines*, shall be
8 subject to a careful examination and inspection, all as provided by the rules adopted by the
9 commissioner pursuant to RSA 541-A.

10 II. A postmortem examination and inspection of the carcasses and parts thereof of all
11 livestock capable of use as human food, *excepting equines*, to be prepared at any slaughtering,
12 establishment in this state in which such articles are prepared solely for intrastate commerce, and
13 interstate commerce when authorized. After the examination:

14 (a) The carcasses and parts thereof of all such animals found to be not adulterated shall
15 be marked, stamped, tagged, or labeled, as "New Hampshire Inspected and Passed" and all carcasses
16 and parts thereof of animals found to be adulterated shall be marked, stamped, tagged, or labeled as
17 "New Hampshire Inspected and Condemned";

18 (b) All carcasses and parts thereof thus inspected and condemned shall be destroyed for
19 food purposes by the establishment in the presence of an inspector;

20 (c) Said inspectors, after the first inspection, shall, when they deem it necessary,
21 reinspect the carcasses or parts thereof to determine whether, since the first inspection, the same
22 have become adulterated. If any carcass or any part thereof shall, upon examination and inspection
23 subsequent to the first examination and inspection, be found to be adulterated, it shall be destroyed
24 for food purposes by the establishment in the presence of an inspector; and

25 (d) The commissioner may remove inspectors from any establishment which fails to
26 destroy any such condemned carcass or part thereof when the requirements of either subparagraph
27 II(b) or (c) have not been observed.

28 7 Carcasses; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:5, I to read as follows:

29 I. The provisions of RSA 427:4 shall apply to all carcasses or parts of carcasses of livestock or
30 the meat or meat products thereof, capable of use as human food, which may be brought into any
31 slaughtering establishment, where inspection under this subdivision is maintained. The provisions
32 of RSA 427:4 may be voluntarily applied to those species that are capable of use as human food
33 though not included in the definition of livestock in this subdivision. An animal owner may elect to
34 adhere to these provisions with the concurrence of the commissioner. Once such animals have
35 entered an inspected establishment, they shall adhere to the same standards and requirements as all
36 livestock in the establishment, *excepting equines*.

37 8 Certified Meat Inspectors; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:8, I to read as follows:

1 I. Certified meat inspectors shall inspect all slaughtering establishments in which livestock,
2 *excepting equines*, are slaughtered and the meat and meat food products thereof are prepared
3 solely for commerce as may be necessary to inform the inspector concerning the sanitary conditions
4 of them.

5 9 Times of Inspection; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:9 to read as follows:

6 427:9 Times of Examination and Inspection. A certified meat inspector shall be present in all
7 establishments at any time during which livestock, *excepting equines*, are slaughtered for the
8 purposes of commerce, except exempted slaughter of certain poultry under RSA 427:16.

9 10 Commercial Control; Equines Excepted. Amend the introductory paragraph RSA 427:10 to
10 read as follows:

11 427:10 Commercial Control. No person, firm, or corporation shall, with respect to livestock,
12 *excepting equines* or any carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat or meat food products of any such
13 animals:

14 11 New Paragraph; Prohibition on Slaughter of Equines for Food Products. Amend RSA 427:10
15 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

16 V. No person, firm, or corporation shall cause equines as defined in RSA 436:93, III to be
17 slaughtered or prepared at an establishment for the purpose of preparing meat food products. No
18 meat inspector or certified meat inspector under this subdivision shall inspect and approve any
19 equine for slaughter or preparation as meat food products.

20 12 Records; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:19, I-II to read as follows:

21 I. The following records shall be made available for review by an authorized designee of the
22 commissioner:

23 (a) The numbers and kinds of livestock, *excepting equines*, slaughtered[;].

24 (b) Quantities and types of products prepared[;].

25 (c) Names and addresses of the owners of the livestock, *excepting equines*[;].

26 (d) Bills of sale, invoices, bills of lading, receiving and shipping papers which all include
27 the following: description of livestock or article, *excepting equines*, net weight of livestock or
28 article, *excepting equines*, name and address of buyer and seller of livestock or article, *excepting*
29 *equines*, name, and address of consigner or recipient if other than the buyer, method of shipment,
30 date of shipment, name and address of carrier[;].

31 (e) Shipper's certificates required by other statutes and rules[;].

32 (f) Record of seal numbers of inedible products[;].

33 II. The following classes of persons, firms, and corporations shall permit access to the
34 records upon presentation of official credentials during ordinary business hours:

35 (a) Any persons, firms, or corporations that engage, for commerce in the business of
36 slaughtering and livestock, *excepting equines*, or preparing, freezing, packaging, or labeling any
37 carcasses, or parts or products of carcasses, of any such animals.

1 (b) Any persons, firms, or corporations, that engage in the business of buying or selling
2 as meat brokers, wholesalers, or otherwise, or transporting, in commerce or storing in or for such
3 commerce, any carcasses, or parts or products of carcasses, of any such animals.

4 (c) Any persons, firms, or corporations that engage in business, in or for commerce as
5 renderers, or engage in the business of buying, selling, or transporting, in such commerce, any dead,
6 dying, disabled, or diseased livestock, *excepting equines*, or parts of the carcasses of any such
7 animals that died otherwise than by slaughter.

8 13 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Amendments



Rep. Suzanne Smith, Graf. 7
January 18, 2012
2012-0267h
08/03

" Not Adopted "

Amendment to HB 1446

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

2
3 1 Meat Food Product; Definition. Amend RSA 427:2, IV to read as follows:

4 IV. "Meat food product" means any product capable of use as human food which is made
5 wholly or in part from any meat or other portion of the carcass of any cattle, sheep, swine, or goats,
6 excepting products which contain meat or other portions of such carcasses only in a relatively small
7 portion or historically have not been considered by consumers as products of the meat food industry,
8 and which are exempted from definition as a meat food product by the commissioner under such
9 conditions as the commissioner may prescribe to assure that the meat or other portions of such
10 carcasses contained in such product are not adulterated and that such products are not represented
11 as meat food products. [~~This term as applied to food products of equines shall have a meaning~~
12 ~~comparable to that provided in this paragraph with respect to cattle, sheep, swine, and goats.~~]

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16 sanitary conditions of all establishments in which such meat and meat food products are prepared.

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18 XXI. "Establishment" means a facility in which livestock, *excepting equines*, or poultry are
19 slaughtered and packed or a facility in which meat food products are processed.

20 XXII. "Slaughter" means the act of killing livestock, *excepting equines*, for human
21 consumption.

22 4 New Paragraph; Horsemeat; Definition. Amend RSA 427:2 by inserting after paragraph XXIV
23 the following new paragraph:

24 XXV. "Horsemeat" means the flesh of an animal of the genus equus.

25 5 Inspections; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:3-a, I(a) to read as follows:

26 (a) Procedures used in ante mortem and postmortem inspections, quarantine,
27 segregation, and reinspections with respect to the slaughter of livestock, *excepting equines*, and
28 the preparation of meat food products at all establishments in this state, including procedures for
29 obtaining access to establishments under RSA 427:6.

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32 livestock, *excepting equines*, capable of use as human food, shall be stored or otherwise handled by



1 any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of buying, selling, freezing, storing, or
2 transporting such articles in or for commerce. Such rules may be adopted whenever the
3 commissioner deems such action necessary to assure that such articles will not be adulterated or
4 misbranded when delivered to the consumer.

5 7 Examinations and Inspections; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:4, I-II to read as follows:

6 I. An examination and inspection of all livestock, *excepting equines*, before they shall be
7 allowed to enter into any slaughtering establishment in this state in which slaughtering and
8 preparation of meat and meat food products of such animals are conducted solely for commerce.

9 *After the examination:*

10 (a) All livestock, *excepting equines*, found on such inspection to show symptoms of
11 disease shall be set apart and slaughtered separately from all other livestock; and

12 (b) When so slaughtered, the carcasses of said livestock, *excepting equines*, shall be
13 subject to a careful examination and inspection, all as provided by the rules adopted by the
14 commissioner pursuant to RSA 541-A.

15 II. A postmortem examination and inspection of the carcasses and parts thereof of all
16 livestock capable of use as human food, *excepting equines*, to be prepared at any slaughtering,
17 establishment in this state in which such articles are prepared solely for intrastate commerce, and
18 interstate commerce when authorized. After the examination:

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20 be marked, stamped, tagged, or labeled, as "New Hampshire Inspected and Passed" and all carcasses
21 and parts thereof of animals found to be adulterated shall be marked, stamped, tagged, or labeled as
22 "New Hampshire Inspected and Condemned";

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24 food purposes by the establishment in the presence of an inspector;

25 (c) Said inspectors, after the first inspection, shall, when they deem it necessary,
26 reinspect the carcasses or parts thereof to determine whether, since the first inspection, the same
27 have become adulterated. If any carcass or any part thereof shall, upon examination and inspection
28 subsequent to the first examination and inspection, be found to be adulterated, it shall be destroyed
29 for food purposes by the establishment in the presence of an inspector; and

30 (d) The commissioner may remove inspectors from any establishment which fails to
31 destroy any such condemned carcass or part thereof when the requirements of either subparagraph
32 II(b) or (c) have not been observed.

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34 I. The provisions of RSA 427:4 shall apply to all carcasses or parts of carcasses of livestock or
35 the meat or meat products thereof, capable of use as human food, which may be brought into any
36 slaughtering establishment, where inspection under this subdivision is maintained. The provisions
37 of RSA 427:4 may be voluntarily applied to those species that are capable of use as human food



1 though not included in the definition of livestock in this subdivision. An animal owner may elect to
 2 adhere to these provisions with the concurrence of the commissioner. Once such animals have
 3 entered an inspected establishment, they shall [adhere] *be subject* to the same standards and
 4 requirements as all livestock in the establishment, *excepting equines*.

5 9 Certified Meat Inspectors; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:8, I to read as follows:

6 I. Certified meat inspectors shall inspect all slaughtering establishments in which livestock,
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 9 of them.

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11 427:9 Times of Examination and Inspection. A certified meat inspector shall be present in all
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 13 purposes of commerce, except exempted slaughter of certain poultry under RSA 427:16.

14 11 New Paragraphs; Prohibition on Slaughter of Equines for Food Products. Amend RSA 427:10
 15 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraphs:

16 V. Shall cause equines as defined in RSA 436:93, III to be slaughtered or prepared at an
 17 establishment for the purpose of preparing meat food products. No meat inspector or certified meat
 18 inspector under this subdivision shall inspect and approve any equine for slaughter or preparation
 19 as meat food products.

20 VI. Shall sell, after for sale, or possess with the intent to sell horsemeat as food for human
 21 consumption. Nor shall any person knowingly transport horsemeat for use as food for human
 22 consumption.

23 12 Records; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:19, I-II to read as follows:

24 I. The following records shall be made available for review by an authorized designee of the
 25 commissioner:

- 26 (a) The numbers and kinds of livestock, *excepting equines*, slaughtered[;].
- 27 (b) Quantities and types of products prepared[;].
- 28 (c) Names and addresses of the owners of the livestock, *excepting equines*[;].
- 29 (d) Bills of sale, invoices, bills of lading, *and* receiving and shipping papers which all
 30 include the following: description of livestock or article, *excepting equines*, net weight of livestock
 31 or article, *excepting equines*, name and address of buyer and seller of livestock or article,
 32 *excepting equines*, name and address of consigner or recipient if other than the buyer, method of
 33 shipment, date of shipment, *and* name and address of carrier[;].
- 34 (e) Shipper's certificates required by other statutes and rules[;and].
- 35 (f) Record of seal numbers of inedible products.

36 II. The following classes of persons, firms, and corporations shall permit access to the
 37 records upon presentation of official credentials during ordinary business hours.



Amendment to HB 1446

- Page 4 -

1 (a) Any persons, firms, or corporations that engage, for commerce, in the business of
2 slaughtering [~~and~~] *any* livestock, *excepting equines*, or preparing, freezing, packaging, or labeling
3 any carcasses, or parts or products of carcasses, of any such animals[;].

4 (b) Any persons, firms, or corporations, that engage in the business of buying or selling
5 as meat brokers, wholesalers, or otherwise, or transporting, in commerce or storing in or for such
6 commerce, any carcasses, or parts or products of carcasses, of any such animals[;].

7 (c) Any persons, firms, or corporations that engage in business, in or for commerce as
8 renderers, or engage in the business of buying, selling, or transporting, in such commerce, any dead,
9 dying, disabled, or diseased livestock, *excepting equines*, or parts of the carcasses of any such
10 animals that died otherwise than by slaughter.

11 13 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Speakers

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1446

BILL TITLE: relative to the meat inspection program.
DATE: January 19, 2012
LOB ROOM: 303 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 10:00 a.m.
Time Adjourned: 12:00 p.m.

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Haefner, Groen, Messier, Babson, Knox, Gandia, Palmer, Comtois, Malone, Mecheski, O'Connor, Sheffert, Swank, Sad, Owen, Powers, Suzanne Smith and Townsend.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Harding, Graf 11; Rep. Haefner, Hills 27; Rep. Sad, Ches 2; Sen. Luther, Dist 12

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Laurie Harding - Prime sponsor of the bill. Third party meat inspection.

* **Dr. Steve Crawford, NH Department of Agriculture** - Opposes the bill. Horse community divided. USDA opposed to our bill. USDA allows slaughter of horses.

Rep. Owen: Federal law supersedes New Hampshire? ANS: Yes.

Rep. Groen: Is there a medical reason for not eating horse meat? ANS: No. Culture prevents use of horse meat for consumption.

Rep. Townsend: Different conditions for slaughter of horses? ANS: Yes, for all different animals.

Declan Gregg - Nine years old. Equine slaughter should stop because it's cruel. Opposes equine slaughter.

* **Valerie Pringle, Humane Society of the United States** - Supports the bill. Equine slaughter inhumane. See written testimony.

Rep. Groen: Any medical reason for not eating horse meat? ANS: Medication causes meat for consumption to be tainted.

Rep. Owen: Are you opposed to animal slaughter in general? ANS: No.

Valerie - Is an equine cruelty investigator.

Is humane slaughter ok? ANS: Yes.

Rep. Townsend: Can a slaughter process (humane) be devised by state vet, etc.? ANS: Don't know.

Jen Corbin, NH SPCA - Supports the bill. Against slaughtering of horses. Increased cases of horse neglect because of concern for slaughter.

Rep. Townsend: Better to have humane slaughter in New Hampshire than to ship elsewhere? ANS: No.

Rep. Groen: Not illegal to eat horses, it's cultural? ANS: Yes. When we make law, it sets a precedence. Could it be applied to other animals? ANS: No, I don't think so.

Rep. Knox: Are we setting precedence? ANS: No.

* **Suzanne Bryant** - Supports the bill. Opposes horse slaughter, fears New Hampshire would get an influx of horses for slaughter. Testimony seems to be inconsistent.

* **Kim Fortune** - Opposes the bill. Neglected animals falls on the state and town taxpayers because of lack of slaughter availability.

Lindy Fortune - Opposes the bill. Need avenue to dispose of unwanted horses.

Robert Johnson, II, Farm Bureau - Opposes the bill. Concerned about issues with USDA. Horses are livestock.

Per Garp - Raises horses, good for eating. Fantastic food. Opposes the bill.

Patricia Morris - Supports the bill. Equine exception should be separate bill.

Rep. Babson: Quick easy test for testing horse meat? ANS: Don't know. No problem with unwanted horses in New Hampshire.

Teresa Parades - Supports the bill. Horse Rescue.

Respectfully submitted,



Rep. Stephen J. Palmer
Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1446

BILL TITLE: relative to the meat inspection program.

DATE: 1/19/12

LOB ROOM: 303

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 10:00 AM

Time Adjourned: 12:00 PM

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Haefner, Groen, Messier, Rabson, Knox, Candia, Palmer, Comtois, Malone, Mecheski, O'Connor, Sheffert, Swank, Sad, Owen, Powers, Suzanne Smith and Townsend

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Harding, Graf 11; Rep. Haefner, Hills 27; Rep. Sad, Ches 2; Sen. Luther, Dist 12

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

X

HR 1446

COMMITTEE CHAIR REP
HARDING PREVIEWED
THIS BILL.

REP HARDING PRIME
SPONSOR

BILL INTRODUCTION
3RD PARTY MEAT INSP.

IN FAVOR OF BILL

REP GROEN IS THERE A MEDICAL REASON
FOR NOT EATING HORSEMEAT?

ANS: NO

DR CRAWFORD STATE VET
DEPT OF AG

OPPOSED TO BILL

- HORSE COMMUNITY DIVIDED
- USDA OPPOSED TO OUR
BILL, USDA ALLOWS
SLAUGHTER OF HORSES.

REP DWAN FED LAW SUPERCEDES
NH? ANS: YES

REP GROEN

ANS: CULTURE PREVENTS
USE OF HORSE MEAT FOR
CONSUMPTION.

REP TOWNSEND DIFFERENT CONDITIONS
FOR SLAUGHTER OF HORSES?

ANS: YES - FOR DA DIFFERENT ANIMALS

(2)

DECLAN GIBBER 9 YRS OLD
- EQUINE SLAUGHTER SHOULD
STOP BECAUSE IT'S CRUEL
OPPOSES EQUINE SLAUGHTER

* VALERIE PRINGLE - HUMAN
SOCIETY VS. SUPPORTS
BILL. EQUINE SLAUGHTER
INHUMAN? SEE WRITTEN
TESTIMONY

REP GIBBER ANY MEDICAL REASON FOR NOT
EATING HORSE MEAT?

ANS: MEDICATION CAUSES
MEAT FOR CONSUMPTION
TO BE TREATED.

REP DWAN ARE YOU OPPOSED TO
ANIMAL SLAUGHTER IN
GENERAL?

ANS: NO

VALERIE - IS AN EQUINE
CRUELTY INVESTIGATOR.

IS HUMAN SLAUGHTER OK? ANS: YES

REP TOWNSEND CAN A SLAUGHTER
PROCESS (HUMAN) BE
REFUSED BY STATE VET, ETC?

ANS: DON'T KNOW

(3)

* JEN CORBEN - NHSPCA
AGAINST SLAUGHTER
OF HORSES - SUPPORTS
BILL.

INCREASED CASES OF
HORSE NEGLECT BECAUSE OF
CONCERN FOR SLAUGHTER.

REP TOWNSEND BETTER TO HAVE HUMAN
SLAUGHTER IN NH THAN
TO SHEEP ELSEWHERE?

ANS: NO

REP GREEN NOT ETHICAL TO EAT
HORSES, IT'S CULTURAL?

ANS: YES

WHEN WE MAKE LAW
IT SETS A PRECEDENT.
COULD IT BE APPLIED TO
OTHER ANIMALS?

ANS: NO, I DON'T THINK
SO.

REP KNOX ARE WE SETTING PRECEDENT?

ANS: NO

SUZANNE BRYANT -
HORSE RESURGERY
SUPPORTS BILL, OPPOSES
HORSE SLAUGHTER, FEARS
NH WOULD GET AN INFLUX
OF HORSES FOR SLAUGHTER.

(4)

TESTIMONY SEEMS TO
BE INCONSISTANT.

* KIM FORTUNE - OPPOSES
BILL

NEGLECTED ANIMALS FALLS
ON THE STATE & TOWN
TAXPAYERS BECAUSE OF
LACK OF SLAUGHTER
AVAILABILITY.

LINDY FORTUNE -

OPPOSES BILL. NEED
AVENUE TO DISPOSE OF
UNWANTED HORSES.

ROBERT JOHNSON - NH
FARM BUREAU

CONCERNED ABOUT ISSUES
WITH USDA

HORSES ARE LIVESTOCK

OPPOSES BILL

PER GARP - RAISES
HORSES, GOOD FOR
EATING. FANTASTIC
FOOD. OPPOSES BILL.

PATNAI MOORES -
SUPPORTS BILL
EQUINE EXCEPTION
SHOULD BE SEPERATE BILL.

REP BAIBSON QUICK BASY TEST FOR
TESTING HORSEMEAT?

ANS: DON'T KNOW

- NO PROBLEM WITH
UNWANTED HORSES IN
NH

TERESA PARADES -
HORSE RESCUE
SUPPORTS BILL

ASSIGNED: ANIMAL ISSUES SUBCOM
REP DAVID KNOX

Sub-Committee Actions

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION ON HB 1446

BILL TITLE: relative to the meat inspection program.

DATE: February 9, 2012

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Knox, Babson, Malone, Swank, Sad, Palmer, Haefner, O'Connor, and Owen

Comments and Recommendations:

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Babson

Seconded by Rep. Sad

Vote: 6-0

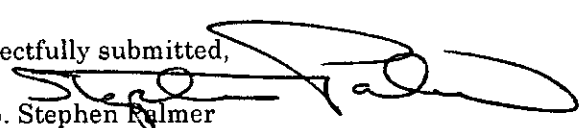
Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote:

Respectfully submitted,


Rep. Stephen Palmer

Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION ON HB 1446

BILL TITLE: relative to the meat inspection program.

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HAEFNER

Comments and Recommendations:

O'CONNOR

OWEN

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Motions:

OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. BABSON

Seconded by Rep. SAD

Vote: 6 - 0

Motions:

OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)


Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote:

Respectfully submitted,

Rep.
Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk



HB1446 MEAT INST. PROGRAM

LIDOPM

BOB HARPER

NEED MEAT INST PROGRAM

STIVA CRAWFORD

FED LEVEL HORSE

SLAUGHTER IS ALLOWED &
FEDS WEN NOT ALLOW
INST. PROGRAM IF NO
HORSE SLAUGHTER.

MOBILE SLAUGHTER
UNITS OK'D. MEAT
MUST BE MOVED TO
COOLER AFTER
SLAUGHTER.

BOB HARPER

3 LETTERS IN

OPPOSITION TO HORSE
SLAUGHTER

Sub-Committee Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION ON HB 1446

BILL TITLE: relative to the meat inspection program.

DATE: January 26, 2012

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Knox, Babson, Malone, Swank, Sad, and Palmer

Comments and Recommendations: Please see attached notes.

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep.	OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep.	OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep.	OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote:

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Tara Sad
Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION ON HB 1446

BILL TITLE: relative to the meat inspection program.

DATE: 1/26/12

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Knock, Babson, Malone, Swank, Sad & Palmer

Comments and Recommendations:

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

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Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote:

See notes attached

Respectfully submitted,

Rep.

Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk

Tan Sad

Notes from January 26, 2012 Subcommittee Meeting on
HB 1446 – Re to the meat inspection program

Present: Chair David Knox, Rep. T. Sad

Rep. Knox opened the meeting at 10:00, after allowing time for committee members to read the two proposed amendments handed out by Ms. Morris and Ms. Bourbeau

Rep. Knox notified those present that the lack of notice in the calendar we will reschedule this meeting for another day, possibly two weeks from now.

Rep. Knox discussed the new amendments – the first submitted by Joanne Bourbeau, a draft only, and the second by Ms. Trish Morris, also a draft.

Joanne Bourbeau from HSUS testified in favor of the new amendments. There was a Supreme Court ruling on Monday regarding the slaughter of horses in California – re downed animals. The new section 13 in the amendments they say will prevent the ruling affecting our bill.

Rep. Haefner entered the meeting, and said that rescheduling this for two weeks out is all right due to the fact that this is not an early bill.

Rep. Knox said we need the state veterinarian, Dr. Steve Crawford, here before we can discuss the

Kim Fortune said that there needs to be a lot more research and data in our NH equine industry prior to any decision on this bill. She said we need a study implemented that is up to date that gives a true picture of the industry today. The latest statistics that we have that concern the equine industry are as far back as 2003. We are nine years forward. There was a \$50 million impact then on the economy, and these figures need to be updated.

She continued on to say that she has seen fluctuations in the industry, but she has no fact that she can give testimony on. Kim does not believe that she would support the new addition of Paragraph 13.

Rep. Owen asked Kim if she was aware of the efforts that have gone into the meat inspection program bill. She said indeed she is – she has a diversified farm and is in full support of the meat inspection program. She realizes the good that can come from the new program. She may or may not be a reflective farm operation of today's NH landscape. Rep. Owen then stated that the program as instituted was very good, and that something happened to remove equine from the livestock definition. She commented that should supports the program bill as

written. The current bill includes equines today. If we don't worry about equines, it should be okay.

Rep. Knox asked if the bill as voted on last year is now law. Rep. Haefner said yes, it is. This bill is amending the bill that has passed and is law.

Rep. Knox introduced Joel Anderson, our committee researcher, to comment on the bill and amendments. He said that, in general, that 'excepting equines' appears throughout the statute. In general, this is not as clean as it could be, but there may have been an attempt to continue to keep horses listed as livestock. When you do those exceptions, you have to cover all instances of the use of the word 'equine' or 'livestock'. He noticed one place – custom slaughtering – where it has not been changed. RSA 427:16 1

Trish Morris then commented on her memo which discussed treatment of horses, available shelter for horses, importing of horses, importing horses for human safety, among other topics (see handout memo from Ms. Morris, dated January 26, HB 1446 – Amendment to meat inspection act.)

Kim asked Trish if it was true that any state, whether or not a law is on the books here, we still have to have a Coggins test.

Rep. Smith commented that we need a separate bill for this equine slaughter. It is not in the original spirit of the attempt to exempt slaughter. Trish Morris agreed that we do need a separate bill. Currently horse slaughter in the state is almost impossible to do because of existing laws.

Sara Hodgdon, a practicing veterinarian, said that although it is impossible to set up a slaughterhouse here, there are people in the west who are sending people to NH to investigate doing it. Rep. Sad commented that there might be interest, but there is no desire on the part of people in NH to have it.

The discussion over, the subcommittee meeting was adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Tara Sad, acting clerk

North Country Notebook

Lack of an FDA slaughterhouse i



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

"Locavore," or "localvore" (I prefer the latter) — meaning one who tries to eat as much locally produced food as possible — is a term that has caught on with small-town citizens and those who exist on the periphery between Suburbia and rural growers and producers. Never mind that the word is undoubtedly a mystery to much of the 85 percent of the American population that lives on 15 percent of the land. I know what it means, and believe in it, fervently, so put me down with the pointy-headed intelligentsia.

The desire to eat the freshest fruit and vegetables (and eggs and honey) possible, support local producers, and keep dollars circulating in the local economy accounts for the growing popularity of farmers' markets. It is pretty much a straightforward one-on-one arrangement — no government involved.

But what about local part-

time and full-time farmers who raise sheep, pigs and beef cattle for market? Herein lies a murky tale.

Simply put, people can buy locally grown meat on a strict two-party basis, meaning that the customer can buy directly from the producer. All well and good — the producer delivers the carcass to a meat-cutter, the customer tells the meat-cutter sizes of portions and desired cuts, and then picks up his boxes of meat all neatly wrapped and labeled.

Here's the problem. Many local people cling to the notion that locally raised meat is somehow "not as good" as supermarket meat. This, combined with an already entrenched mind-set that locally raised meat should, for unknown reasons, be cheaper than supermarket meat makes things very difficult for local producers. They do not have the economies of scale that gigantic feed-lot producers enjoy, nor the advertising and fancy mass-marketing techniques. They just put a lot of hard work (and money) into raising the best animals they can, and try to sell them before they have to carry them over another winter.

But the best dollar for a locally grown pound of meat, largely because of the localvore movement, comes not from the individual custom-cut sale, but from what's called "third party" transactions — meaning restau-

rants and hotels. And there's the rub. Animals destined for third-party consumption — producer to hotel to dining room customer — must be processed in a Federal Department of Agriculture inspected slaughterhouse. A farmer or backyard beef-raiser often can get far more per pound from a localvore-minded hotel or restaurant than he can from his neighbor up the road.

And this poses a big problem for people raising animals in the northern two-thirds of New Hampshire. The nearest (and only) FDA-inspected slaughterhouse in New Hampshire is in Goffstown, a town just west of Manchester. The actual nearest FDA slaughterhouse for North Country producers is in St. Johnsbury, Vt.

So here is the dilemma. Restaurants and hotels everywhere are anxious to the point of being desperate to put locally raised and grown food on their menus, particularly if it's certified organic. Customers want to see it, too. It's a movement. There's nothing like seeing, under an item on a menu, "Squash raised locally on Bumpus Valley farm," or "Round of beef from Hardscrabble Farm, Clarksville." But the latter is pretty difficult to make happen.

For many years, we raised sheep, a lot of them, well over a hundred. We'd always wanted to see our lamb on the Balsams Grand Resort

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is hurting local meat producers

Hotel menu, as a point of pride, not to mention the fact that once or twice a season, we love to go there and enjoy the clack and clatter and hub-bub of its matchless dining room.

I went to see Master Chef Phil Learned, who lives in Andover, Maine and is a longtime friend of my uncle, Carl Harrigan, and his wife Cam, who lived in Andover for a long time, and now hail from Rumford. He told me what time the lambs had to be there, and the maximum temperature they could be. His crew would do the cutting. All we had to do was deliver the cooled-down carcass.

I called the slaughterhouse in St. Johnsbury, nearly two hours away, and assured them that we'd be there when they opened at the crack of dawn the next morning. The plan was that they'd kill and butcher right away, and hang the carcasses in first a freezer and then a cooler, leaving us in hopes of picking them up in early afternoon, wrapping them in sheets and ice and insulation, and getting them to the Balsams before they warmed up too much or acceptance.

I did not break the speed limit (it says here) on the trip back. At the Balsams loading dock, someone went to fetch Chef Learned, who rushed out with a meat thermometer and promptly thrust it into a joint. "You just made it," she said, with typical Chef



JOHN HARRIGAN

Part of our flock on South Hill, Colebrook, with the mountains of Vermont in the distance. Part of the Attack Llama is at far right.

Learned gruffness.

That evening, South Hill lamb was on the placard where it was being carved at the end of the buffet, and we were among the diners. Impractical? For sure. But well worth every bite from that oldest of mankind's downfalls, pride.

There is hope in this can't-get-it-to-market scenario. Although numerous outfits around New England have been running portable slaughterhouses for chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese, there is little or nothing for the red-meat producer. But Vermont is thinking about a mobile FDA slaughterhouse for animals, and numerous experimental programs have been underway on the West Coast.

I asked our commissioner of agriculture, Lorraine Merrill, who, by the way, is a dairy farmer and knows a lot about this stuff, whether New Hampshire is contemplating a similar approach. She said, in essence, nice

thought, we're watching Vermont and other states, and where's the money?

But in a more serious vein, she said the department realizes the quandary that the lack of handy FDA-inspected facilities puts producers in, and is seeking various ways to address the problem.

One approach would be to find a farm operation already producing meat animals and use that operation as a base to subsidize an expanded FDA-sanctioned facility, with an inspector visiting several such facilities on a rotating basis. Another is to convert an existing well-run and maintained processing facility, say in West Milan, into an FDA inspected plant. And, if the money can be found, there's what's to me the best scenario, a roving slaughterhouse with an FDA inspector on board.

The prophet Isaiah returns one more time in this Christmas season, now on the feast of the Epiphany. In the

Let's hope something works. Meat producers have a lot invested in their animals, far above what people have invested in their carrots and radishes at the farmers' market. To get the best money for their home-grown products they need a choice — and the more profitable third-party avenue should be one of them.

(This column runs in 13 weekly papers covering the northern two-thirds of New Hampshire and parts of Maine and Vermont. John Harrigan's address: Box 39, Colebrook, NH 03576, or hooligan@ncia.net)

The Box Stall

Brought to you by the NHEBF Equine Committee

Livestock over Companion



Story by Laurie Chapman-Bosco
Photos provided by Lynn Silva
NHEBF Equine Committee members

Lately, there has been some debate over whether or not horses are to be considered as livestock or are considered as 1200 pound pets. Horses ARE livestock for a variety of reasons which will be discussed here. First and foremost, the equine industry has appreciated the protection of the US Department of Agriculture and in this age of increasing encroachment of the Humane Society in the United States (HSUS) and other national organizations (like People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals or PETA) on the activities that members of the equine industry enjoy with their horses, it has never been more important. The USDA already has a strong lobbyist base in place. To move equines out of the livestock classification and into that of companion animals would necessitate the building of an additional group of lobbyists with our best interests at heart. Beginning that grass roots support effort would take longer and more effort than we can generate and would leave the equine industry vulnerable.

The equine industry is responsible for \$39 billion dollars of direct economic impact. The equine industry is also responsible for \$102 billion impact on

the US economy when the multiplier effect is considered. We do NOT want to be one of the states that supports horses as pets and thus allows HSUS and others like them to chip away at the industry. This industry supports 1.4 million jobs nationally and pays \$1.9 billion in total taxes. We simply cannot allow this kind of economic impact to wither on the vine.

Additionally, if they were not considered livestock, then equine farms and operations would lose eligibility for government monies and disaster relief. In the state of NH, the equine industry is more responsible for maintaining green space than the dairy industry. No livestock species want to be the last one standing. Keeping equine as livestock and therefore agricultural keeps all livestock species commodities stronger in the state.

When the Equine Liability Act was passed in NH in 1999, horses were then considered livestock. The change in designation to companion animals may well change the intent and protection of that important legislation.

Furthermore moving horses from the livestock designation to a companion animal moves them one step closer to the animal rights activists and their argument that horses should not be ridden or used in competition. Foxhunting is no longer allowed in Great Britain. That would easily happen here. What part of the industry will be next? Jumping? Trail riding? If the classification changes, it impacts how equine facilities are taxed and built and where. There are specific Agricultural/Livestock zoning which allows for the building and zoning of equine facilities. As commercial non-agriculturally related businesses may be moved to commercial areas, which are not only inappropriate, but taxed and regulated at a higher rate. Who doesn't enjoy the serene panorama of green fields fencing in grazing horses? Who doesn't enjoy watching horses compete or being ridden and doing something they enjoy. Ever watch a reining horse? They know what direction to move in. They know

their sport and willingly participate in it. Games ponies seemingly know the games they are being ridden in and at times are a step ahead of their riders. Equines are agricultural livestock. Flower growers are considered part of agriculture and, although some flowers may be eaten, they are largely visually enjoyed. Horses may be raced, used as stock horses or ridden by 4H or Pony Club members. They are incredibly effective police partners when part of a Mounted Patrol and they provide unequaled physical and emotional therapy in Therapeutic Riding programs. The "product" may be work, performance, or recreation as opposed to food, but flowers aren't generally grown as food, yet they are considered agriculture. Why would consumption be the only criteria for being classified as livestock? Would the older sheep or cow that is in a petting zoo be considered a pet because they are not being eaten? No, they wouldn't; they are still livestock. Instead of thinking about animals who fall into the livestock category as those which are utilized for food and fiber, it would be more useful and more logical to also look at the animals' size, land use and housing requirements. It would be more practical and wholly more appropriate to classify them as livestock. They are NOT 1200 pound pets. The NH Farm Bureau opposes their classification as companion animals and supports their classification as livestock.



Testimony



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

State Horse Slaughter Laws

Two states, CA and IL, prohibit the slaughter of horses for human consumption. Four states (CA, IL, OK, and TX) have laws prohibiting the sale of horsemeat for human consumption. Arizona prohibits state institutions from serving or buying horsemeat. Ohio prohibits the sale of only certain portions of the horse from use for human consumption.

Many states (including AZ, CA, DC, FL, GA, MA, MN, MS, OH, WI, WV) require labeling, posting of signs, consumer notification, and/or prohibitions of mixing with other meats.

STATE	STATUTE
Arizona § 3-2129	Horsemeat shall not be served in or sold to state institutions for human consumption.
California Penal Code § 598c § 598d	It is unlawful for any person to possess, to import into or export from the state, or to sell, buy, give away, hold, or accept any horse with the intent of killing, or having another kill, that horse, if that person knows or should have known that any part of that horse will be used for human consumption. Horsemeat may not be offered for sale for human consumption. No restaurant, cafe, or other public eating place may offer horsemeat for human consumption.
Florida HB 765 Section 474.20	In 2010 the Florida legislature took strong steps to end horse slaughter and passed HB 765 which amended Section 474.203 of Florida Statutes making horse slaughter a felony offense with a minimum mandatory penalty of \$3500 and a one-year jail term. The legislation passed unanimously demonstrating clearly how Florida voters voiced their strong opposition to horse slaughter and animal cruelty.
Illinois 225 ILCS § 635/1.5	Makes it illegal for any person to slaughter a horse if that person knows or should know that any of the horse meat will be used for human consumption. Also makes it illegal to import, export, sell, buy, give away, possess, hold or accept any horse meat for human consumption.
Ohio § 919.11	No person shall sell for human consumption the tongue, diaphragm, heart, esophagus, lips, ears, or glands of a horse, nor shall these parts of a horse be included in a horse meat food product intended for human consumption.
Oklahoma 63 Ok § 1-1136 63 Ok § 1-1137	It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, offer or exhibit for sale, or have in his possession with intent to sell, any quantity of horsemeat for human consumption. It shall be unlawful for any person to transfer the possession of any horsemeat to any other person when the person so transferring knows, or in the exercise of a reasonable discretion should have known, that the person receiving the horsemeat intends to sell it, offer it for sale, exhibit it for sale, or keep it in his possession with intent to sell it for human consumption.

Texas	A person commits an offense if the person: (1) sells, offers for sale, or exhibits for sale horsemeat as food for human consumption; or (2) possesses horsemeat with the intent to sell the horsemeat as food for human consumption.
Agric. Code 149.002	
149.003	A person commits an offense if the person: (1) transfers horsemeat to a person who intends to sell the horsemeat, offer or exhibit it for sale, or possess it for sale as food for human consumption; and (2) knows or in the exercise of reasonable discretion should know that the person receiving the horsemeat intends to sell the horsemeat, offer or exhibit it for sale, or possess it for sale as food for human consumption.

* Maryland art. 27 s. 212 prohibiting the sale of horsemeat for human consumption was repealed in 1968.

Testimony By: Valerie Pringle

Presented To: NH Environment and Agriculture Committee

In Support Of: HB 1446, an Act Relative to the Meat Inspection Program, with amendments

Date: January 19, 2012

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 1446, an Act Relative to the Meat Inspection Program. I am Valerie Pringle, Equine Protection Specialist for The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the nation's largest animal protection organization with 11 million members and supporters- including more than 83,000 here in New Hampshire. I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak regarding this legislation that seeks to protect horses in New Hampshire. While the intent of HB 1446 is to ban horse slaughter for human consumption, the bill does not go far enough to protect horses from the cruel and predatory horse slaughter industry. Removing the references to equines from the Meat Inspection Program statute is a positive first step, but the bill does not prevent horse slaughter outright, nor ban the sale, or possession with the intent to sell horsemeat as food for human consumption or the transport of horse meat for use as food for human consumption. The Humane Society of the United States has crafted an amendment that will honor the intent of HB 1446.

Our beloved equine friends serve humans in sport, recreation and as partners in work and law enforcement. They are not currently, nor have they ever been, raised as food animals in this country. The American horses being sent to slaughter are former race horses, carriage horses, riding horses, even wild horses and heavily pregnant mares and foals. The horse slaughter industry in North America is a predatory one set up by foreign companies driven by greed and profit. The entire process—from the purchase of horses at auction by slaughter house middlemen; to their transport over long distances without food, rest or water; to their brutal butchering and dismemberment at the slaughter plant—is cruel and inhumane. Unfortunately, horses from New Hampshire do find themselves caught up by this barbaric industry.

While killer buyers and slaughterhouse operators would like us to believe that they provide a needed service for old, sick and lame horses that are past recovery (by slaughtering them), nothing could be further from the truth. Many healthy horses are unknowingly sold by their owners to slaughter, while some are stolen and sold for a profit. In truth, the vast majority of horses sent to slaughter are sound and in good health. USDA statistics show that 92.3% of all horses slaughtered are in good condition – meaning these horses could have gone to new owners where they could live productive lives if they were not purchased by killer buyers doing the bidding of foreign diners. These animals are purchased by opportunistic buyers who out-bid families and horse rescues for sound horses that could have served as companion animals in good, loving homes. For those horses that *are* old, sick or lame, the process of

slaughter is so terribly cruel and inhumane that it would never serve as an acceptable end for animals in such condition.

Horses, by their very nature, respond to hostile and frightening environments by trying to flee. For this reason, they cannot reliably be slaughtered in a humane manner. While federal law is supposed to require that horses are rendered unconscious prior to slaughter, usually with a captive bolt pistol (which shoots a metal rod into the horse's brain), horses respond to fear by throwing their head, and undercover footage has shown that workers often miss and horses are not properly stunned. They can be kicking and conscious when shackled and hoisted by a rear leg to have their throats cut. Horse slaughter cannot be made humane, due to the very nature of horses.

In addition to these frightful conditions, documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act demonstrate that when the Illinois based Cavel International plant and other horse slaughter plants were operating in the U.S., there were problems with employees whipping horses across the face with fiberglass rods, horses flipping over backward because of such whipping and injuring their heads, and the use of long bull-whips in the holding pen. Other problems included the failure to provide water to horses in holding pens because of a fear that the watering system would freeze. Government observers characterized these incidents as "egregious humane handling" problems. Death at the slaughterhouse can never be characterized as "euthanasia" and is not a humane end for horses.

In March 2006, when a federal district court ordered the U.S. Department of Agriculture to stop inspecting horses to be slaughtered for horsemeat at the former Cavel horse slaughter plant in DeKalb, Illinois, the HSUS rescued 30 horses from that plant, one of which was a blind, pregnant mare who delivered a new foal just a week after her rescue. The surprise birth of this miracle foal underscores one of the most gruesome aspects of the horse slaughter industry—the fact that mares, heavily pregnant and due to give birth, are shipped thousands of miles in crowded trucks to be butchered—their unborn killed and cast aside, never living to take a single breath or see the light of day. Had it not been for the success of the federal suit against USDA and the HSUS's rescue efforts, this mother and her foal would have undergone that terrible fate, and would not be here today. In its last year of operation, the Illinois plant had at least two documented cases of horses who were so heavily pregnant that they gave birth on the killing floor. Since these are not food animals, they can and do become pregnant prior to winding up at slaughter, leading to such incidents.

In addition to the inhumanity of horse slaughter, I would be remiss if I did not address environmental concerns horse slaughter plants pose to the communities in which they operate. Before the closure of the Cavel plant, The HSUS filed a 60-day notice of intent to sue Cavel for repeatedly violating the federal Clean Water Act. The notice was filed in response to numerous complaints The HSUS received from DeKalb area residents and is based on records provided by the local sanitary district. The notice, required under federal law before a lawsuit can be filed, alleged that Cavel violated the terms of its wastewater discharge permit numerous times during its operation. The violations included the documented release of excessive "animal residue" into the local sewer system. Prior to its forced temporary closure in March, the plant slaughtered more than 500 horses a week and discharged approximately 13,000 gallons of wastewater per day during operations.

Excessive wastewater discharge was not the only environmental problem at the Cavel plant. As a result of nearly 150 wastewater discharge pollutant violations since July 2004, in October 2006, the local sanitary district fined Cavel \$25,500 and ordered the facility to fix the wastewater problems at the plant or face closure on May 31, 2007. In February of that year, an employee at the plant admitted that a new holding tank was oozing frozen chunks of waste, and on April 24, 2007, the sanitary district levied a new fine of \$55,000 against Cavel. According to official records, the sanitary district deemed the plant "in significant noncompliance" for its chronic wastewater discharge violations. When the Dallas-Crown plant was operating in Kaufman, TX, residents there described horse blood coming out of their faucets and a stench so severe that they could not open their windows in the summer. Residents who lived in close proximity to the plant were quoted as saying the whinnies and cries of the horses inside the plant often kept them awake at night.

Horse owners who can no longer care for their horse have many viable options available to them. They can sell the horse to another private home; lease the horse to another horse enthusiast; relinquish the horse to a horse rescue or sanctuary; donate the horse to a non-profit therapeutic riding center, or, if no other option exists, have the horse humanely euthanized by a licensed veterinarian. The cost of euthanasia is equivalent to the cost of one month's keep for a horse, approximately \$225 on average. In no circumstance is horse slaughter a necessary or humane option.

We would never allow greedy, unscrupulous kill buyers to purchase excess dogs and cats for slaughter in foreign plants for their meat or fur. Horses are just as deserving of our protection. I urge you to stand by the horses in New Hampshire, and by all American horses, which will help guarantee that these noble animals will be treated with dignity and respect. With my testimony, I am including a copy of an article written earlier this month wherein a reporter interviewed Paula Bacon, the former mayor of Kaufman, Texas, home to one of the last horse slaughter plants in this county that closed after a 20 year legal battle over environmental violations. Thank you for your time, and I am happy to answer any questions.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/vickeryeckhoff/2012/01/10/texas-mayor-paula-bacon-kicks-some-tail/>



Vickery Eckhoff, Contributor

LIFESTYLE

1/10/2012 @ 11:57AM 422 views

Texas Mayor Paula Bacon Kicks Some Horse Slaughter Tail

Every small-town mayor is bedeviled by something. For Paula Bacon of Kaufman, Texas, it was Dallas Crown, which slaughtered horses next door to her friend Mary Nash's 40-acre farm off Highway 175.

Dallas Crown was shuttered during Bacon's last term in office after a 20-year legal battle over environmental violations that constantly overwhelmed the city's wastewater plant with horse blood and discharge. But news that horse slaughter plants may be returning to the U.S in 2012 has Bacon speaking out about what one horse slaughter plant with 46 non-unionized employees can do to a small town of 6,700 hard-working people.

"You'd be better off with a lead smelter plant and sexually-oriented businesses," says the fifth-generation resident, citing environmental issues along with the stigma attached to horse slaughter.

Bacon, whose family owns P.G. Bacon Lumber Co., ("Friendly service since 1896"), offers a cautionary tale for any town thinking that horse slaughter will benefit their communities.

"Five million dollars in federal funding was spent annually to support three foreign-owned horse slaughter plants: Dallas Crown, Beltex in Fort Worth and Cavel in DeKalb, Illinois," claims Bacon. "When Dallas Crown's tax records came to light in the city's legal struggle, we found they'd paid only \$5 in federal taxes on a gross income of over \$12 million. They liked to say they were good corporate citizens. But it is my belief they were more like corporate thugs."

Life In A Slaughter Town

The twice-elected Bacon has plenty of gruesome stories to share, dating back to the '80's, when the Belgian-owned Dallas Crown put in a pump to force horse blood through the city sewer system and burst the pipes. Within hours, horse blood backed up into residents' bathtubs and bubbled up through city streets.

Then there were the out-in-the-open offal piles, ever-present flies, vultures and stench lingering inside the Presbyterian hospital, daycare center, churches and, of course, people's homes. Yet despite a litany of gothic horrors in the community, Dallas Crown's violations and operations continued unabated until February, 2007. That's when the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals finally shut it down, citing a 1949 Texas law making horse slaughter illegal that had somehow been buried and forgotten.

The decision brought to an end the constant lawsuits, injunctions to cease and desist and legal bills. "During that time, legal expenses consumed 20% of the town's property tax revenue. That floored me," says Bacon, describing the day she pulled the city manager's records while he was out of the office and tallied up the bills.

Over one six-week period, Kaufman issued 29 citations for wastewater violations, each accompanied by a potential fine of \$2,000. Dallas Crown responded by requesting 29 separate jury trials, potentially causing yet another economic strain on the city's budget.

Kaufman could not afford to litigate in order to collect the fines, which went unpaid. "But things got a lot worse," says Bacon. During a 19-month period in 2004-2005, there were 481 violations, at which point Dallas Crown refused entry to Kaufman's engineers, preventing them from doing any environmental tests for nine months.

This kind of situation is, unfortunately, nothing new to residents of towns that slaughter cows, pigs, sheep and poultry, as Bacon's critics like to point out. These include lawmakers like former Montana Representative Ed Butcher, whose state is looking to profit from slaughtering horses for foreign markets, along with Sue Wallis, a state representative and pro-slaughter advocate from the small town of Recluse.

Do a Google search and you can find stories from not long ago about slaughterhouses pumping partially treated sewage (mostly blood, entrails and manure) into local waterways, as happened at Beltex and Cavel. These were also shut down when the USDA decided to stop funding inspections of horse slaughter plants five years ago.

Bacon's used to the slaughter industry's "two wrongs make a right" argument. "We dealt with people telling us to suck it up for 30 years. It just seemed like a necessary evil. We thought we were stuck with it."

"Quite Frankly, We Don't Want You Here."

This was the message delivered to Dallas Crown on Tuesday, January 21, 1986 by Mayor Harry Holcomb and the Kaufman City Council. Representatives of the plant, which had been around since the late '70's, went to the meeting, looking to get operations back online after a year-long shutdown following several months of bloody bathtubs and streets incidents.

"How would you like to have blood in front of your house and have the smell of manure and flies all around?" complained a resident at the meeting. Others worried about children getting sick.

A city waste water analyst told the council that if pre-treatment requirements were met, the conditions wouldn't be as bad as in the past. "The amount of odor created by wastewater should be minimized," he said, "and they shouldn't be putting blood into the sewer because they can sell it. Every pint of blood they pour down the sewer is lost money. If they violate

the waste-water ordinances of the city, they can be forced to come into compliance, or be closed."

Mayor Holcomb stated, "That plant has never made the city a dime and never will," then relented, believing the town could close Dallas Crown if it failed to comply with ordinances and regulations. And Dallas Crown quickly agreed to meet the city's requirements. "We want to be good members of the community," said Henry Serruys and Jack Kemp, representing the plant's foreign owners.

Other promises followed. "We don't go on the market to get 'good' horses. We get surplus horses—those that would be sent to the glue factory or others not fit for other use," said plant manager Serruys. Estimates of horses slaughtered per week: 300.

These would be killed "in a fraction of a second," Serruys claimed, with a captive-bolt device. He also promised that a "USDA inspector will be on site each day to ensure that the plant operates under government regulations and the plant will work under the guidance of the humane society."

"They lied, horses died," Bacon states. "Same as it is now."

Thicker Than Water: Dealing With Toxic Horse Blood

The waste water analyst at that critical, 1986 city council meeting omitted two key details that would prove disastrous for Kaufman over the next two decades. The first had to do with the quantities of horse blood that Dallas Crown would produce. The second was its marketability to fertilizer companies.

Quite simply, the companies didn't want it for the same reason that a major U.S. prepared-foods company later stopped fertilizing its mushrooms with horse manure: drugs in the horses' systems that were toxic to humans.

Pro-slaughter activists like to promote beef and horse meat as equally healthful, but statistics quickly reveal important differences in how cows and horses are raised and medicated that prove them wrong.

For example, 100% of cattle go to slaughter, typically, by age two. From pasture to plate, their feed and meds are regulated by the USDA. By contrast, no more than 1% of U.S. horses wind up in the slaughter pipeline in any given year. Of those, more than 90% are healthy, sound horses with no behavioral problems, according to a study done by Dr. Temple Grandin of Colorado State University. In another study, fewer than 4% of horses sold to slaughter were older than age 10.

Watching Through The Fence

Dallas Crown's promise to slaughter only broken-down nags turned out to be a farce, as Bacon and Mary Nash discovered by simply observing the pens from behind Nash's fence. "You could see everything from there," Bacon says. "I'd never seen such beautiful and healthy horses."

Even if the horses had been old and useless, their ages should have disqualified them as slaughter animals or at least raised a flag: No rancher keeps a meat animal beyond the age it takes to reach full weight. A horse past that age would obviously have done something else prior to being sold to a kill buyer: breeding stock, racehorse, sport horse or working animal, for example.

But these kinds of equines get medicated with wormers, antibiotics, fly sprays, diuretics and Phenylbutazone, a pain killer once administered to people and now banned as a known human carcinogen by the USDA and FDA in slaughter-bound food animals. Racehorses have

the highest exposure to "bute" due to their training and racing schedules, but regular sport and working horses are regularly administered the drug, too, according to owners.

As a result, the fertilizer companies rejected the horses' blood as too toxic for commercial use. And so, shortly after going online again in the springtime, Dallas Crown—and Kaufman's sewer system—was again awash in horse blood, a disaster compounded by another key detail that the waste water specialist should have known: 300 horses produce blood equivalent to 600 cows. Twice the amount of blood, more than twice the toxicity, for half the profit.

The blood, of course, stayed in Kaufman; the profits and meat went overseas.

Taking On The Good Ol' Boys

A former high school teacher, Paula Bacon ran for Mayor of Kaufman back in 2003 because, as she put it, "I was tired of the good ol' boys running everything." She unseated the incumbent mayor with 58% of the vote. The good ol' boys weren't pleased.

For one thing, she was only the second woman to be elected mayor in the town's 163-year history. For another, quite a few good ol' boys had economic relationships with Dallas Crown. Some worked in the office and the plant, others as kill buyers supplying live horses. Even Kaufman's city attorney rented office space to Dallas Crown's legal counsel. Their offices sat cozily across the hall from each other.

But while their relationships benefitted a handful of Kaufman residents, many more suffered.

Jualine and Robert Eldridge lived next door to the plant for more than 20 years. Like Mayor Bacon, they were vocal about the foul smells, sights, vermin and loud noises affecting their property, families and neighborhood.

"Sometimes, when they killed, they didn't move the [offal] container for a week. That's how long it took to fill it with guts," says Robert Eldridge. "The longer it sat, the more it stunk, the more flies and vermin it attracted."

"It was all about money for Dallas Crown," says Jualine Eldridge. "They wanted the plant, but not in their own backyards. Just like Beltex, which was in a low-income Hispanic neighborhood in Fort Worth. They didn't care about us."

Bacon also points out the effect that the environmental and humane aspects had on businesses looking to relocate to Kaufman. "I discovered that developers would look at the plant and say 'no thanks.' When asked why, they'd just say, 'Not a good fit.'"

Kaufman Today

Life in Kaufman is immeasurably better, now that Dallas Crown is shut down. The air is clear, the crime rate dropped steeply and real estate prices have gone up. The town has also been attracting businesses that stayed away while it was known as "that place that slaughtered horses."

And the good ol' boys? They just went back to doing what they had always done. The kill buyers started hauling horses to the Mexican border for slaughter. The others stuck around and got involved in new businesses.

Today, quite a few people in the "horse industry" are hoping to overturn the 1949 law prohibiting horse slaughter in Texas that Bacon and the Fifth Circuit Court successfully invoked to close Dallas Crown.

You can change a town, apparently. But a good ol' boy? Bacon remains guarded on that one. It's why she keeps talking about her experience with Dallas Crown.

"People still don't understand how horrific horse slaughter is—and was, right here in Kaufman," she says. "I've got USDA pictures that prove it. But people don't want to see them. They're really hard to look at."

See ***Life In A Slaughter Town***, a special photo gallery accompanying this article.

This is the seventh post in a series on Thoroughbreds, horse racing and the state of the horse industry. For more on this topic, visit my personal blog, follow me on Forbes.com or read these other Forbes.com posts:

Date: 01/19/12

To the distinguished Committee

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to speak in favor of HB 1446. My name is Jen Corbin and I am a life long resident of New Hampshire. I have been a horse owner for 30 years and for the last 15 years I have worked for the NHSPCA in Stratham involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of equines.

~~This bill seeks to exempt equines from being processed and sold as a meat product. I am strongly against slaughtering horses in our state. There is no need for it; the demand for this product is coming from and supports countries other than our own.~~

I hear that argument that slaughtering them will generate income. Well, I can tell you that a live horse will generate more and over a sustained period. My paycheck supports not only my horse but my farrier, my vet, my feed store, tack store,

~~and I will be leaving for Europe. I think that as a result of~~

Here are the two most common arguments I hear from those who support horse slaughter:

"It's better than the horse starving to death" and "What are we going to do with all these excess horses?" Well, the latter question is simple, stop producing them to meet the demand overseas for horse meat. ~~If we suddenly banned cow slaughter, wouldn't~~

~~say "Oh what about all the excess cows?" They would simply produce another product. This is a proven technique. No demand for your product? Make something else.~~

Horse owners are brainwashed into thinking that slaughter was created as an answer to over-population. It's far from it and actually contributes to it, in part by encouraging uncontrolled breeding because there's an easy and economical "out" for the culls. It contributes to neglect and starvation because those who can no longer afford to care for their horses refuse to let them go because they might wind up in the slaughter pipeline.

AS FAR AS THEM STARVING TO DEATH?

Each year the NHSPCA investigates reported cases of equine cruelty and neglect. We handle more and more cases of owners starving their horses and the cases are getting larger and larger meaning instead of rescuing the occasional horse from someone's backyard, we are now rescuing 10 or more at a time. This increase is due not only to the economy but due to the very real possibility that the horse will be slaughtered if the owner sells it due to lack of ability to care for it. We are seeing increasing cases of people without the means, "rescuing" horses from slaughter and then being unable to care for them. So from my in-depth and lengthy experience with horse neglect, it's the ever-present slaughter option that gets these well-meaning people and these horses into neglectful situations. Slaughter causes horses to be starved in backyards because people are too afraid to send them to an auction. The terms "Auction" and "dealers" do not need to be the dirty words they are in the horse industry today. They could serve their legitimate purpose of buying and selling horses without being thought of as the banana peel ride to the slaughter truck.

I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU HAVE NO INTENTION OF SLAUGHTERING HORSES BUT THEY ARE CLASSIFIED AS LIVESTOCK & AS SUCH NEED THIS AMMENDMENT

* I AM

DR. CRUISED THAT MENTIONED THE HORSE COMMUNITY IS DIVIDED & I WANTED TO ADDRESS THE TWO MOST COMMON ARGUMENTS WITH THE HORSE COMMUNITY.

Shelley

I've heard an argument that slaughtering them will generate income. Well, I want my income to support my local community. I can tell you that a live horse will generate more and over a sustained period than a slaughtered one. My paycheck supports not only my horses but my farrier who lives in the next town over, the boarding barn and her hired help, my vet in Deerfield, my trainer in Candia, my feed stores in Chichester, Epsom and Concord, my tack stores in Concord, Pelham, Hooksett, Plaistow and Boscawen; my mechanic up the street, and the local shelters who supply us with foster horses when mine need company.

I don't know anyone in New Hampshire who raises horses for meat. In my broad circle of equine owners and professionals, horses are companion animals, and animals of recreation. Even for those of my friends who raise various livestock for meat, their horses are for recreation only. They are not animals raised for food and should not be lumped in with them.

~~others will be speaking of the medical emergency of producing horse meat.~~

Please vote to pass HB 1446 and exempt NH's equines from this needless, cruel fate.

Respectfully Submitted

Jennifer Corbin
Epsom, NH
Director of Animal Services
NHSPCA
Stratham, NH

Hello my name is Kim Fortme

I am here today to testify against this bill hb 1446 regarding the exclusion of equines from the NH Intrastate Meat Inspection Bill. I don't believe there has been enough research, data collection, factual economic figures and study into the NH equine industry's recent challenges and changes to date, as well as NH's negative economic consequences effecting equines that including equines in the NH Meat Inspection bill would outweigh.

I would like to suggest a sub committee to study our NH Equine Industry's economic impact within the state that is up to date and reflects facts of our current st

As an equine professional in an industry still experiencing the unintended consequences that the closure of US equine slaughter facilities have burdened our industry with since 2007, I don't believe this bill placed into NH law, is what is best economically or feasibly for our NH residents, there are still too many unanswered questions and facts that could have a substantial economic impact on all our NH citizens and taxpayers that I do believe *need to be answered* before even consideration of implementing this bill as written into law.

A problem that NH has yet to experience on a full scale level that is happening all over our country at a very rapid rate, is too happening right now in NH as we sit here, and is behind the "barn door" that has not been evaluated or addressed by by this bill, yet **HB 0339** does, is offer solution to neglected, starving, unwanted and uncared for horses, due to our changing society and lack of education, planning, options, and funds; closing this option of equine slaughter would give horse owners no way to alleviate their situation, whereas by keeping this door open to equines it helps both our equine industry, its participants and the NH taxpayer, how?

Well, let me give you a couple of recent situations that I have on my own attempted to research as well as experienced;

Emergency Planning & Law Enforcement: What is The Plan and Who Pays for these equine that are in a bad situation that cannot be sent to slaughter,-Who cares for them, Where will they stay and at Who's expense?

This issue has been the biggest unanswered question within my research; I was not surprised to find that in my county, Merrimack and town, Webster; there is no place within these taxpayer budgets for dealing with these such situations, being as they are categorized as livestock- it has never happened in Merrimack County, or Webster- however as I interpret the protocol of neglect ultimately it reverts to the public taxpayer, through which a town or county officer arrests an individual, the animals are confiscated for "evidence", that must be maintained and potentially astronomical costs ensued, meanwhile the offender is held for due process, surrenders ownership or not, then what does this local law enforcement do?

There are only 2 registered rescues in our state of which I believe are full and "host facilities" soon will be full too, creating costs that because of juristicion and the law infraction having happened within say, Webster, I as the taxpayer will ultimately pay through my police budget or county budget and on and on.

I would like to read to you an article from another state that is from January 5, 2012: Shreveport Times, LA

Value:

Sustainability:

Open Space

Beasts of burden

I love horses enough to believe that humane treatment even in slaughter is a viable solution to end of life.

Credit to: Shreveport Times

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Seized, abandoned horses, donkeys are expense for taxpayers

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- [Four Forks Equine Shelter](#)

MANSFIELD — Taxpayers, via the DeSoto sheriff's office, are increasingly paying more money to care for horses and donkeys abandoned or neglected by their owners at greater numbers over the past year.

The numbers, which are hard to put a finger on, have grown so much that Sheriff Rodney Arbuckle took the unusual action Tuesday of leasing a 54-acre tract from a DeSoto Parish local landowner where the animals can be placed and fed until their disposition is known.

More often, owners are not reclaiming them, leaving the sheriff's office to send them to auction or attempt adoption through a local rescue group.

"Right now, it's not a winning situation for the public. If we catch people who abandoned the animals, they will be charged with cruelty, and hopefully, court will make them pay restitution on cost of housing and dealing with it," Arbuckle said. "But the problem we're running into is there is no market for the horses and donkeys, and the owners are not feeding them or watering them. They got stuck with them, too. They say they can't find the hay to feed them. We think a lot are letting them loose and not claiming them, so we're having to pick them up."

From July 1, 2010, to June 30, the sheriff's office forked out \$13,856 on animal-related expenses, ranging from veterinary care to pickup to enforcement.

Chief Deputy Pat Cobbs hopes to shave some of that this year with the new impound yard; however, the lease arrangement will tack on hundreds of extra dollars during the last six months of the sheriff's office's current fiscal year.

Cobbs and Arbuckle are grateful that up until now they could rely on Four Forks Shelter in Keithville to take the seized horses and donkeys. But even that facility has become overcrowded.

Owner Virginia Wheeler put her count Tuesday at 35, which doesn't include three horses picked up for the DeSoto sheriff's office that afternoon in Logansport. Those were taken immediately to a veterinarian because of their poor health.

But among the count are horses from Bossier and Webster parishes. And there are some that were voluntarily surrendered by their owners.

(Page 2 of 2)

"The sheriff's offices don't get back what they put in them, and we don't get back what we put in them, either. It's a big expense all around. People just don't realize it," said Wheeler, who opened the facility in March. "It's a problem all of the parishes are having right now. Feed is so expensive. It's almost doubled in price the last year. Hay has doubled, and it's hard to find. People just can't take care of them anymore. Those who are responsible are calling us and asking us to come get them and place them somewhere, but there are so many not being responsible."

Fortunately, Wheeler saw some of the horses find new homes over the holidays. Those are the happy endings she likes to see since it was a desire to provide stimulus for her adult son who suffered brain damage in an automobile accident that prompted her and her husband to start their rescue operations.

"It helped him gain the ability to function," Wheeler said of her son. "It gave him back as much of a normal life as could be. We felt like we needed to give back, but we never dreamed it would be like this."

The DeSoto sheriff's office pays Four Forks — or any other private contractor — \$150 per call to pick up loose or seized animals. Four Forks gets \$7 a day to board each animal. Laws require loose stock to be held for 10 days and 15 days in cruelty cases. Blood tests and microchips are \$35 each and required of all animals, Cobbs said.

"The vet expense varies, but if the animals are sick, we have to get them treated to get by, and that can range from parasites to a lack of food to a poor environment," Cobbs said.

The sheriff's office is getting so many calls that Cobbs this week is preparing a guide for all deputies that sets standard procedures for their response.

Patrol deputies will be the first to document and photograph the nature of each call, then pass on the case to an investigator or the Louisiana Brand Commission.

There's not so much of a problem with loose cattle because owners typically reclaim them quickly. Or at the least, those taken to auction generate revenue.

The horses and donkeys, Arbuckle said, rarely create interest at stock sales. And as distasteful as it is to animal lovers when Congress voted in 2006 to shift inspection of slaughter houses to a federal agency, it essentially ended the slaughter of horses and thus "created another problem because there is no market for them," Arbuckle said.

"I know people don't like to talk about it, and I know that's bad," he said. "But what's worse: let them get out in the road and somebody hit them and get killed or take those that are unwanted to an auction where they might end up being slaughtered?"

He added, "I understand that ruling about horse slaughter has been changed, but until we find a market for them, the taxpayers are having to pay for us to take care of them. We have no place to put them or sell them, and with all of the state regulations, the costs can run up to \$150 for a \$5 jackass."

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Seized, abandoned horses, donkeys are expense for taxpayers

6:18 AM Jan. 5, 2012 | 3 Comments

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A horse named Blondie is comforted by Virginia Wheeler, president and manager at the Four Forks Shelter in Keithville, Louisiana while being photographed and examined. Blondie, who is underweight, malnourished, anemic and has parasites, came to the shelter with two other horses from the Logansport area of Louisiana. / Jim Hudelson/The Times

Written by
Vicki Western

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"Right now, it's not a winning situation for the public. If we catch people who abandoned



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Four Forks Shelter is a nonprofit corporation in Keithville dedicated to the rescue of horses and donkeys. Donations of cash and materials are needed to keep up with the growing number of horses in their care. Material donation can run the gamut from hay or feed to fences and cattle panels to barns that can be converted to feed and water troughs to lumber for stalls or even buckets, water hoses and horse blankets. Visit www.fourforksshelter.com for information on how to make a donation or call 933-9371 or

the animals, they will be charged with cruelty, and hopefully, court will make them pay restitution on cost of housing and dealing with it," Arbuckle said. "But the problem we're running into is there is no market for the horses and donkeys, and the owners are not feeding them or watering them. They got stuck with them, too. They say they can't find the hay to feed them. We think a lot are letting them loose and not claiming them, so we're having to pick them

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[Four Forks Equine Shelter](#)

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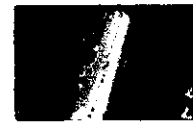
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Horse owners and concerned citizens need to come together with real solutions to ensure the humane care, management, and euthanasia of horses; to ensure the long-term sustainability and viability of the equine industry; and to restore the market for all horses. Horse slaughter bans exacerbate these problems, and offer zero solutions

There is no disagreement—all animals should be treated humanely from birth to death.



What if the people who couldn't take care of these horses, could sell them before they starved?

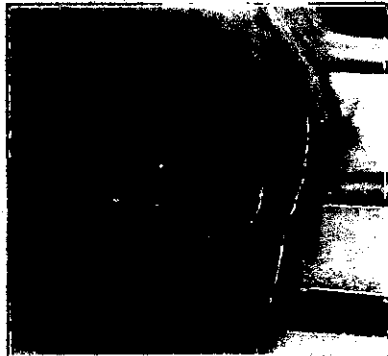
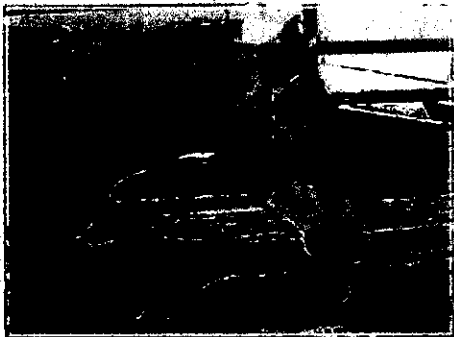
**This is what happens when there is no market...
No value...
No options!**



What if HSUS/PETA, spent as much money on veterinarians, and care givers as they do on slick city lawyers, six figure salaries, and million dollar ad campaigns?

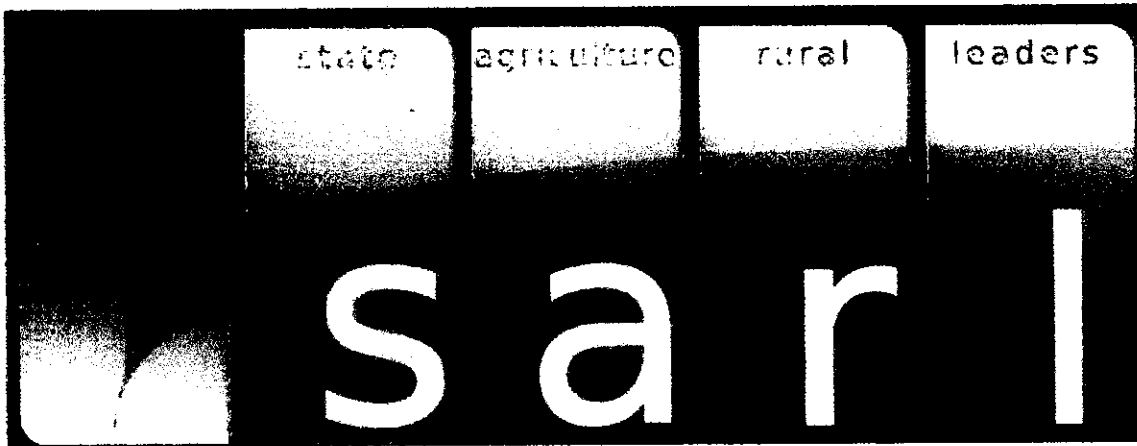


A quick, painless euthanasia while still in good condition, and providing nourishing meat for hungry people is a far more humane fate than an agonizingly prolonged death of starvation.



A young mare found with her brand cut out—turned loose on the Nevada desert to fend for herself.

Additional documentation of nation-wide abandonment and starvation of equines at <http://www.abandonedhorses.net>.



SARL Resolution 11-1

Resolution to Urge Support of Efforts to Improve the Sustainability of the Horse Industry

WHEREAS: The closing of horse slaughter facilities in America has decimated the equine industry, and has curtailed the ability of states and tribes to control the numbers of excess and abandoned horses on their lands. Documented reports indicate an increase of 400% in the number of starved, abandoned, and neglected horses between 2008 and 2009 alone; and

WHEREAS: Federal appropriations law contains a prohibition on allowing federal dollars to be spent on salaries for inspectors who inspect horses before or after slaughter, making it impossible for operations that want to process horse meat within their borders to market this meat; and

WHEREAS: This has resulted in state budget increases and taxpayer costs at a time when states cannot afford unnecessary expense. It has severely impacted the livestock industry as a whole, and by eliminating the salvage value of horses has significantly reduced the market value for all horses; and

WHEREAS: Efforts to change the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934, the Wild and Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act, expansion of herd management areas, or allowing the use for federal land for privately owned sanctuaries will only exacerbate the issue;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That SARL encourages the USDA, our individual states, our agricultural, natural resource, wildlife, conservation, and other concerned entities to support the restoration and sustainability of the horse industry;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Secretary of Agriculture, the members of the agriculture committees of the United States Congress and the agriculture committees of the state legislatures.

(Passed unanimously Jan. 16, 2011 at Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit X, Fort McDowell, Arizona.)



Highlights of GAO-11-228, a report to congressional committees

HORSE WELFARE

Action Needed to Address Unintended Consequences from Cessation of Domestic Slaughter

Why GAO Did This Study

Since fiscal year 2006, Congress has annually prohibited the use of federal funds to inspect horses destined for food, effectively prohibiting domestic slaughter. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is responsible for overseeing the welfare of horses transported for slaughter.

Congress directed GAO to examine horse welfare since cessation of domestic slaughter in 2007. GAO examined (1) the effect on the U.S. horse market, if any, since cessation; (2) any impact of these market changes on horse welfare and on states, local governments, tribes, and animal welfare organizations; and (3) challenges, if any, to USDA's oversight of the transport and welfare of U.S. horses exported for slaughter. GAO analyzed horse price and shipping data, and interviewed officials from USDA, state and local governments, tribes, the livestock industry, and animal welfare organizations, and reviewed documents they provided.

What GAO Recommends

GAO suggests that Congress may wish to reconsider restrictions on the use of federal funds to inspect horses for slaughter or, instead, consider a permanent ban on horse slaughter. GAO recommends that USDA issue a final rule to protect horses through more of the transportation chain to slaughter and consider ways to better leverage resources for compliance activities. USDA agreed with GAO's recommendations and noted specific actions it will take to implement them.

View GAO-11-228 or key components. For more information, contact Lisa Shames at (202) 512-3841 or shamesl@gao.gov.

What GAO Found

Since domestic horse slaughter ceased in 2007, the slaughter horse market has shifted to Canada and Mexico. From 2006 through 2010, U.S. horse exports for slaughter increased by 148 and 660 percent to Canada and Mexico, respectively. As a result, nearly the same number of U.S. horses was transported to Canada and Mexico for slaughter in 2010—nearly 138,000—as was slaughtered before domestic slaughter ceased. Available data show that horse prices declined since 2007, mainly for the lower-priced horses that are more likely to be bought for slaughter. GAO analysis of horse sale data estimates that closing domestic horse slaughtering facilities significantly and negatively affected lower-to-medium priced horses by 8 to 21 percent; higher-priced horses appear not to have lost value for that reason. Also, GAO estimates the economic downturn reduced prices for all horses by 4 to 5 percent.

Comprehensive, national data are lacking, but state, local government, and animal welfare organizations report a rise in investigations for horse neglect and more abandoned horses since 2007. For example, Colorado data showed that investigations for horse neglect and abuse increased more than 60 percent from 975 in 2005 to 1,588 in 2009. Also, California, Texas, and Florida reported more horses abandoned on private or state land since 2007. These changes have strained resources, according to state data and officials that GAO interviewed. State, local, tribal, and horse industry officials generally attributed these increases in neglect and abandonments to cessation of domestic slaughter and the economic downturn. Others, including representatives from some animal welfare organizations, questioned the relevance of cessation of slaughter to these problems.

USDA faces three broad challenges in overseeing the welfare of horses during transport to slaughter. First, among other management challenges, the current transport regulation only applies to horses transported directly to slaughtering facilities. A 2007 proposed rule would more broadly include horses moved first to stockyards, assembly points, and feedlots before being transported to Canada and Mexico, but delays in issuing a final rule have prevented USDA from protecting horses during much of their transit to slaughtering facilities. In addition, GAO found that many owner/shipper certificates, which document compliance with the regulation, are being returned to USDA without key information, if they are returned at all. Second, annual legislative prohibitions on USDA's use of federal funds for inspecting horses impede USDA's ability to improve compliance with, and enforcement of, the transport regulation. Third, GAO analysis shows that U.S. horses intended for slaughter are now traveling significantly greater distances to reach their final destination, where they are not covered by U.S. humane slaughter protections. With cessation of domestic slaughter, USDA lacks staff and resources at the borders and foreign slaughtering facilities that it once had in domestic facilities to help identify problems with shipping paperwork or the condition of horses before they are slaughtered.

Public Lands Council (PLC) and National Cattlemen's Beef Assn (NCBA) Policy

PLC-307

2007

HORSE HARVESTING AND PROCESSING

WHEREAS, the method of euthanasia employed by processing facilities that harvest horses is a humane end of life, and

WHEREAS, there is a continued need for the humane harvest of horses to prevent the inhumane treatment of horses that would suffer from neglect and abandonment, and

WHEREAS, there exists an extremely insufficient infrastructure and no funding mechanism to support the humane existence of unwanted horses, and

WHEREAS, unwanted horses are processed into products that are consumed by humans in overseas markets, and

WHEREAS, the value of unwanted horses as a food animal dictates they not be abused, lest this value be diminished, and

WHEREAS, the cattle industry depends upon an economically healthy horse industry and systems to offer a humane end of life for unwanted horses,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, PLC opposes any horse harvesting and/or processing prevention act and any such legislation that would prohibit the humane harvest of horses for human consumption.

INFO SHEET

Veterinary Services

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

June 1996

The USDA's Role in Equine Health Monitoring

The United States Department of Agriculture has had a role in assuring the health and well being of U.S. livestock since 1884. At that time, agriculture relied on the horse for transportation, to work fields, and to facilitate the movement of cattle on ranches and to market. Although the horse's prominence as a source of transportation and power faded rapidly with the advent of motorized vehicles, horses are still integral to U.S. agriculture.

U.S. Equine and Livestock Population Patterns

Historically, agriculture production was supported by the family farm unit producing a full range of crops and livestock. For example, data from the 1900 Census of Agriculture show 82 percent of all farms had cattle, 76 percent had hogs and 79 percent had horses.

In contrast, today (1992 Census) pork production has become highly concentrated on only 10 percent of the farms while total inventory has declined only slightly. Cattle production still remains widely dispersed on 56 percent of all farms while total inventory has increased by 42 percent. Only 18 percent of farms today have horses. The 1992 Census reported 338,346 farms with 2,049,522 horses. However, it should be noted that these data are limited to those horses on farms.

A farm as defined by both the Census and USDA is any place that produced and sold \$1,000 or more in agricultural products. If a place does not qualify by the sales criteria (as many places with horses would not) a point system is utilized to include operations with livestock or crops. A place with pasture (no points awarded), no crop production, and no livestock inventory or sales would need five horses to be considered a farm. Under these criteria, many places with fewer than five horses are excluded from the Census data. Service-oriented places, such as racetracks and boarding facilities, are also excluded. This farm definition may exclude over one-half of the horse population in the U.S. Independent studies by the American Horse Council (AHC, 1987) and the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA, 1991) suggest roughly 5 million horses exist in the U.S. The exclusion of the non-farm horse population from the Census data, which may be as many as 3 million head, clearly suggests the need to collect data on the entire population.

A prerequisite to the evaluation of animal health is to know the demographics of that industry. The Agriculture Census enumerates livestock populations every 5 years. Food and fiber animal numbers are more actively tracked by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) which estimates major livestock populations at least annually. Currently, comprehensive demographics do not exist for the equine industry. NASS, being the principle source for estimates of animal inventories in the U.S., is the logical source to fill this critical information gap.

USDA and Equine Health

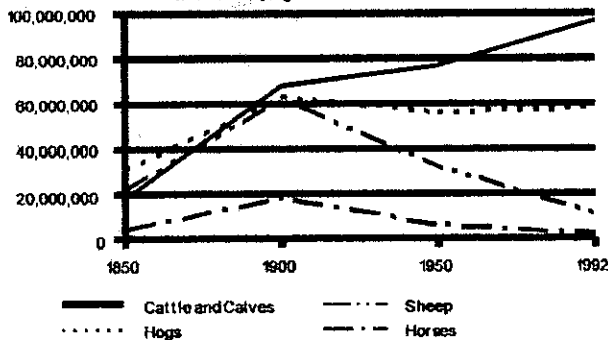
In 1996, the USDA considers the welfare and health of horses important for several reasons:

- 1) The horse industry expends large amounts of money for agricultural products. The modern horse industry is multifaceted with many breeds and varied uses, including, but not limited to: breeding, racing, showing, competitions (i.e., rodeo, 3-day eventing), teaching tools (i.e., 4-H projects, handicap riding programs), pleasure riding, transportation in the National Parks, working on cattle ranches and feedlots, police mounts, and companion animals.

Although the industry's diversity complicates a measure of economic value derived from equine ownership or products, several states have performed economic impact studies of the

Total Number of Head on Farms

Estimated by Agricultural Census



horse industry and found substantial value to agriculture based on purchases of agricultural products and veterinary services. Estimates of equine numbers and related expenditures in New Jersey (1987), New York (1988), Pennsylvania (1990), and Michigan (1992) revealed horse owners in these states spent from \$35.1 million to \$91.0 million per year on feed alone. Total equine-related expenditures per state ranged from \$253 million to \$631 million annually for feed, bedding, veterinary care, farrier care, hired labor, taxes, rent, tack, boarding, and capital improvements. In 1987, the AHC estimated overall horse-related expenditures nationally at \$15 billion dollars per year.

The equine industry can be compared to other livestock and poultry industries in terms of the total amount of feed consumed. The USDA estimates the equine industry uses an amount of feed equivalent to 40 percent of that for the broiler industry, 18 percent of the feedlot cattle industry, 16 percent of the pork industry, and 15 percent of the dairy industry.

2) The U.S. needs to assure quality of exported horse meat for consumption by humans. Horses are slaughtered in the U.S. every year and exported for human consumption, primarily to Europe. In U.S. plants, carcass inspection numbers totaled 259,000 in 1992; 189,000 in 1993; and 115,000 in 1994. The USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service maintains quality assurance for equine as well as other livestock carcasses for human consumption. The reported monetary value of these exported carcasses in 1995 was \$67.5 million.

3) U.S. agriculture recognizes the need to monitor diseases shared by horses, other livestock, and man. A 1995 outbreak of vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) pointed out a need for the USDA to monitor infectious diseases which affect both horses and traditional livestock such as cattle. Other diseases, such as Equine Infectious Anemia, pose a risk of infection to other horses. The USDA must have knowledge of horse demographics and movements to position staff to respond to such outbreaks.

Horses play a potential role in zoonotic diseases such as Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE). VEE outbreaks occurred in Venezuela in May of 1995 and spread to the northernmost state of LaGuajira, Columbia, by September of the same year. Recent reports indicate that over 15,000 people have been infected with VEE, and 42 related deaths have been reported. Equine fatalities have been estimated at 500 during the same time period. This outbreak of a zoonotic disease for which the horse is a viral amplifier points out the need for USDA to be in a position to respond efficiently and effectively to such a threat in the U.S. The USDA could play a pivotal role in

supplying information on the location of equine populations and the number of doses of vaccine needed from pharmaceutical companies to prevent or stem an outbreak of VEE in this country.

4) As with other livestock industries, global trade figures prominently for the equine industry. In 1995, the value of permanent live horse exports from the U.S. was reported at \$285 million. This figure can be compared to \$86 million for live cattle exports. Global trade and potential regionalization efforts will require accurate information on the demographics of the U.S. horse population. The USDA currently addresses equine health issues, both domestic and international, at both the national staff and field levels. The addition of equine population demographics will greatly strengthen these efforts.

5) Livestock industries expressed their need for USDA to address equine disease outbreaks at the 1995 U.S. Animal Health Association meeting where they charged the department to be more knowledgeable about the epidemiology of VSV.

Earlier, a 1974 report from the Special Panel of the Committee on Animal Health from the Agricultural Board of the National Research Council (published by the National Academy of Sciences and supported in part by the USDA) proposed formation of a "Center" to meet animal industries' needs for data regarding animal health management (Library of Congress, No. 74-19048). The report detailed a Center that would serve as a national focal point for collecting, compiling, and analyzing data and disseminating information on the incidence, prevalence, and costs of animal disease. The Center would monitor diseases in food animals, but also diseases of horses and ponies.

The role of the Center described by the 1974 committee report parallels a mission statement developed by the USDA: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: Veterinary Services, Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH). As horses are clearly mentioned as one of many animal species to be monitored by the proposed "Center," it is appropriate that CEAH, along with other USDA collaborators, are in the planning stages for a national equine health monitoring program in 1998.

As an initial step in the planning process, a Catalog of Opportunities for Equine Health Monitoring has been developed. The catalog discusses the advantages and limitations of a wide variety of monitoring options using existing data.

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THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF A BAN ON THE HUMANE SLAUGHTER (PROCESSING) OF HORSES IN THE UNITED STATES

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Executive Summary

Federal legislation has been proposed 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 humanely slaughtered (processed) for human consumption, and for other purposes. The intent of the legislation is to enact a ban in the United States on processing horses for human consumption. The legislation does not provide fiscal support that would likely be needed to respond to an ever increasing number of unwanted, neglected, and abused horses. Often times horse neglect and abuse cases originate from a lack of economic resources needed to adequately maintain a horse's health. While everyone fully supports and is committed to the humane treatment of all horses, there are unintended consequences of banning horse processing.

The purpose of this paper is to identify and review the unintended consequences of a ban in the United States on the processing of horses for human consumption:

1. The potential for a large number of abandoned or unwanted horses is substantial.
2. Public animal rescue facilities are currently saturated with unwanted horses. No funding has been allocated to manage a large increase in horses that will likely become the responsibility of these facilities.
3. Cost of maintaining unwanted horses accumulates over time:
 - A conservative estimate of the total cost of caring for unwanted horses, based upon 2005 statistics, is \$220 million;
 - Cumulative annual maintenance costs of otherwise processed horses, since the year 2000, would have exceeded more than \$513 million in 2005.
4. The export value of horse meat for human consumption was approximately \$26 million. A ban on processing would eliminate these annual revenues.
5. The option of rendering equine carcasses is decreasing. Private-land burial and disposal in landfills have a negative impact on the environment.
6. The Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program may be negatively impacted by a ban on horse processing. BLM horses and an increasing number of unwanted horses will be competing for adoption homes.

Horse processing facilities offer a humane end-of-life option for approximately 1% of the United States horse population. Tens of thousands of horses could be neglected or abandoned if a processing ban were imposed.

The direct economic impact and future unintended—and currently unaccounted for—economic impact of banning horse processing for human consumption are substantial. Proponents have not addressed the inevitable costs of such a ban. Horse owners will realize a direct impact from lower horse sale prices. Local and state governments will be adversely impacted by increased costs of regulation and care of unwanted or neglected horses.

Welfare Considerations of a Ban on Horse Processing

Numerous roles for horses exist in our society, from recreational to agricultural uses. Horses are also owned for companionship or pleasure without the intention of contributing to the human food supply. However, horses are considered livestock (U.S. Congress, 2002). Welfare considerations for horses are problematic since society today expects the treatment and standard of care for horses to be similar to what they have come to expect for family pets, such as dogs and cats. This is true even though horses are often housed, fed, transported and handled much like other livestock. Due to their large body size, required expertise in handling and care, and the subsequent cost of care these expectations for horses may not be realistic. In most communities, services and resources equivalent to that received by dogs and cats do not currently exist for horses.

A difficult decision facing horse owners is when and how to end a horse's life. It is the responsibility of the owner, in consultation with the attending veterinarian, to ensure the horse's life ends painlessly and with minimal distress. The term euthanasia is derived from the Greek terms "eu", meaning good, and "thanatos," meaning death. A good death is one that occurs with minimal pain and at the appropriate time in the horse's life as to prevent unnecessary pain and suffering (Lenz, 2004).

The American Veterinary Medical Association reports two accepted methods of euthanasia for horses:

1. Overdose of a barbiturate anesthesia, most commonly sodium pentobarbital, administered with a sedative;
2. A physical method of euthanasia from a gunshot or penetrating captive bolt causing trauma to the cerebral hemisphere and brainstem resulting in an immediate painless and humane death.

The estimated United States horse population is 9.2 million (AHC, 2005); approximately 1% are marketed annually to processing for human consumption. This sub-population of horses has been characterized by several studies (Stull, 1999; McGee et al., 2006). Observational studies show that "riding" horses were the majority of candidates for processing as opposed to draft or "wild" horses (Table 1). In a survey, horses at processing plants had substantially poorer foot and body condition and proved less sound than horses observed at sales facilities. These characteristics demonstrate symptoms of lack of care and/or chronic pathological conditions. These horses may experience chronic pain, lack adequate nutrition and vaccinations and suffer from the absence of common care practices such as routine parasite or dental programs. Processing plants in the United States assist in maintaining a level of horse welfare by preventing old and/or unsound working/riding horses from further neglect or abuse (McGee et al., 2001). Owners with economic constraints may not be able to provide long-term, quality care. Thus, the horse's health and welfare could be compromised or progress to a neglected condition if a ban on horse processing were imposed.

Table 1. Classification of Auction Horses* (McGee et. al. 2001)

Classification	n=	%
BLM Mustang (official freeze branded)	2	< 1%
Carriage Horses	49	3%
Draft Horses	36	2%
Native American reservation (branded)	3	< 1%
Mules or Donkeys	95	7%
Mustangs**	14	1%
Pony or Miniature	163	11%
Race Horses Off Racetrack	21	1%
Riding Horses***	1,090	74%

* At the auctions there were 0% horses observed in the following categories – fattened feedlot horse of unknown origin and fattened feedlot horse of known origin.

** These horses typically had a classic phenotype: heavy feet, large head and a large compact body. Industry refers to this body type as a mustang or mustang type horse. Often these horses are feral.

*** Riding horses include various breeds of horse.

Animal Control Facilities

Neglected animals, including horses, are reportable to animal control agencies at the local community level in most areas in the United States. Animal control and protection service in the U.S. consists of both not-for-profit and government organizations. Animal control agencies are entities of city and county government and are usually administered by the police or sheriff's department, agricultural commissioner, or public works/park department. Taxes, service fees, and licensing fees provide funding for animal control agencies. The limited resources of animal control agencies are primarily used for control of dogs and cats in their community. Animal control agencies vary from having no facilities with little or no personnel expertise, to extensive shelter facilities—designed for horses—with trained personnel. Following a ban on horse processing, local communities will expect these agencies to respond and be responsible for abandoned and neglected horses on a level equivalent to current dog and cat programs. Most agencies will need to generate larger resources, educate their personnel, acquire facilities for housing horses, and reallocate their limited funds to include horses and support veterinary services to properly care for abandoned and neglected horses in their communities.

Data published on the number of horse neglect cases from the years 1994 and 1995 in California showed there were a total of 2,177 malnutrition cases, with 321 horses impounded for periods ranging from 15 days to 7 months. The average cost for impounding was \$10.50 per day or \$225 per month. The most common reason (67% response) for horse neglect was owner ignorance, with economic hardship as the second leading cause. Litigation costs averaged \$5,735 per case (Witham et al., 1998). The cost of litigation for cases involving animals is a consideration for the regulatory agencies in proceeding with animal neglect cases. Without the option and economic incentive to process horses, the number of animal neglect cases may double or triple in local communities.

Not all local animal control agencies have the capacity to expand their programs, facilities, and personnel to accommodate abandoned and neglected horses, resulting in additional public and horse health risks. Neglected horses pose a disease risk to the general horse population and

the public's health by hosting or transmitting diseases. Without proper vaccination programs, zoonotic diseases such as West Nile virus, encephalitis, rabies, or tetanus can occur, elevating the risk of illness to both humans and other horses. The risk of insect-borne diseases, such as Lyme disease (tick) and West Nile virus (mosquitoes), increases without effective pest control. Manure disposal on a premise may be unacceptable, such that manure runoff pollutes surface and ground water with nutrients (ammonia, nitrogen, and organic matter) or disease-causing bacteria (cryptosporidium, salmonella, or giardia). Horses without proper care and compromised health serve as a host or transmit diseases that are infectious to people or other animals. The number of horses as potential hosts and vectors of diseases infectious to humans and other animals will increase with a ban on processing.

Economic Considerations of a Ban on Horse Processing

Horses have many uses in America today. Perhaps the most visible use is in sport, which includes racing, rodeo, cutting and other competitive disciplines. The majority of horses are used for pleasure riding and recreational use. Horses are still used for work on ranches, farms, riding schools, and for carriage rides. In addition, many other countries and cultures worldwide use horses as a food source.

The processing of horses in the United States for the export of meat, and other products, continues to be a highly contentious issue. While value judgments on this issue abound, economic implications of a proposed ban also exist. Economic impact, environmental impact, and the unintended national and international consequences are discussed in the following sections.

Industry Facts

The "Economic Impact of the Horse Industry in the United States," commissioned by the American Horse Council, estimates the horse industry contributes \$39 billion in direct economic impact on the United States economy. In 2005, 94,037 horses were processed in the U.S. That is well below the 345,900 processed in 1990. The United States exports live horses, meat and horse products. Over the past decade, the U.S. exported horses to more than 60 countries, with Japan, Mexico and Canada being the primary destinations by value (USDA-FAS, 2006). Horse meat exports go primarily to the European Union (EU) countries of Belgium and France.

A horse processing ban will impact the horse industry and the economy in four major areas:

1. Cost of maintaining unwanted horses;
2. Building and improving infrastructure to sustain unwanted horses;
3. Environmental impact of horse euthanasia and carcass disposition;
4. Revenue loss from the sale and export of horsemeat.

Costs of Unwanted Horses: Maintenance Until Natural Death

Approximately 65,000 – 95,000 horses are processed for food export each year in the United States (FATUS, 2006). A conservative estimate of the total economic impact of a ban on horse processing for export has been reported to be \$152 million to \$222 million per year (North et al., 2005). The number of unwanted horses is almost certain to increase as the problem compounds each year as unwanted horses are not processed but become the responsibility of

owners, not-for-profit organizations, or local governments. Consequently, the cost to owners and taxpayers from a ban on the processing of horses could quickly reach billions of dollars.

As previously mentioned animal control facilities, predominantly established to care for small animals, would be faced with the challenge of accommodating horses. The costs to train large animal handlers, purchase land, develop facilities and secure additional equipment would total tens of millions of dollars.

The fact is low to moderate income families own horses, not only the wealthy and affluent. Approximately 45% of horse owners have an annual household income between \$25,000 and \$75,000 (AHC, 2005). A small change in the average horse owner's economic status may result in the inability to provide their horse an appropriate standard of care. Eventually, there may be a need to sell a horse which has become a financial hardship. If unable to sell, these owners may not have the financial resources required to send their horse to a professional to retrain for an alternative use. Nor might they be financially able or willing to euthanize and dispose of the horse due to the high cost.

Other horses may have limited usefulness due to infirmities or behavioral disorders. This type of horse will not attract a buyer. If an abundance of these horses become available, then saturation of the rescue/adoption/retirement market will likely result. This will lead to higher demand for rescue/adoption/retirement facilities.

If processing is no longer an option, owners' choices are reduced. This reduction in management options may lead to substandard levels of care, neglect, or even abandonment. In fact, a source of many feral horses and burros in America's wild horse inventory is due to abandonment.

Costs of Unwanted Horses: Infrastructure

In recent years there has been an emergence of horse rescue/adoption/retirement organizations responding to an increasing number of neglected, abandoned, and/or unwanted horses. Funding remains a critical issue for these organizations striving to provide an adequate standard of care. The goals of these organizations are to rescue, rehabilitate, retrain, and redistribute, via sale or adoption, the horses over which the rescue/adoption/retirement facilities assume control. Further, due to the long natural life span of horses, approximately 30 years, rescue/adoption/retirement facilities face a potentially prolonged, costly ownership period for each horse they obtain.

The cost to maintain an unwanted horse until its natural death averages \$2,340 per year per horse (North et al., 2005). Using a conservative estimate of a useful life of 20 years, followed by an 11 year retirement period, the average maintenance cost for retirement could be as high as \$25,740. This estimate does not include veterinary costs incurred if the horse is sick or injured. For many individuals, maintaining the horse until natural death would be cost prohibitive.

For rescue/adoption/retirement facilities, the financial costs can, and will quickly, overcome the capacity of the facility to meet the need of an increasing number of neglected, abandoned, and/or unwanted horses. An anecdotal point of evidence is illustrated by the Indiana Horse Rescue South which has been taking in abused and neglected horses since April 2005. The rescue will have to close if it does not receive private financial support. "Since April the couple have emptied their bank accounts into the not-for-profit organization, they said, going through \$30,000 in savings and an inheritance" (Hall, 2006).

There are costs to the horse industry from a ban on horse processing. The most obvious is the direct annual maintenance cost of unwanted horses that would have been disposed of through processing. Table 2 presents the calculated annual and cumulative maintenance cost of horses processed since the year 2000.

Table 2. Annual and Cumulative Maintenance Costs

Year	Number Processed	Annual Maintenance Cost \$ ¹	Cumulative Annual Maintenance Cost \$ ²
2000	47,703	111,625,020	n/a
2001	56,332	131,816,880	221,116,896
2002	41,490	97,086,600	273,980,117
2003	49,639	116,155,260	335,339,353
2004	65,779	153,922,860	422,194,343
2005 ³	75,173	175,904,820	513,660,294

¹ Annual maintenance cost per horse of \$2,340.

² Assumes an 80% survival rate per year; for example 32.8% of the number of horses processed in 2000 require a maintenance cost in 2005.

³ As of October 22, 2005.

The annual maintenance cost represents the cost to maintain the inventory of unwanted horses that would otherwise be processed. Dependent on the number of horses processed, the annual cost ranges from \$97 million in 2002, to \$175.9 million in 2005. The annual cost, however, understates the total cost required, because horses that would have been processed in previous years now remain in the horse population. Using a rough estimate that eighty percent of the previous years' horse inventory survived, the cumulative annual maintenance cost would have exceeded \$513 million dollars in 2005—the annual cost to maintain the horse inventory that would have been disposed of through processing.

Environmental Impact of a Horse Processing Ban

A significant management issue is the safe and proper disposal of horse carcasses to eliminate hazards to people or other animals. Recent disease outbreaks including Foot-and-Mouth disease, Avian Influenza, exotic Newcastle disease, and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE; mad cow disease) have heightened the awareness of potential carcass disposal issues and highlight the need for safe and economical methods for disposal of animal carcasses (AVMA, 2004).

States and local regulations dictate potential carcass disposal methods:

1. Burial
2. Rendering
3. Disposal at a land fill
4. Incineration
5. Composting
6. Bio-digestion

Burial options are dictated by local restrictions concerning ground and surface water contamination, distance restrictions from neighbors, proximity to previous burial sites and depth of burial requirements. Due to the large size of a hole required to bury a horse, a backhoe

tractor is needed and costs can range from \$300 to more than \$500. The burial option is becoming increasingly restrictive due to negative environmental externalities created by decomposing horse carcasses.

Rendering is becoming less available as an option for horse carcass disposal. Rendering processes animal carcasses into usable proteins and fats that were once commonly used in animal feeds. Disease concerns, primarily with BSE, have decreased the marketability of rendered products. Rendering will not destroy the BSE prions and incinerators have to operate at extremely high temperatures to effectively inactivate the prions (AVMA, 2004). Although horses are not BSE carriers, it is the declining market in rendered products and thus the decline in the number of rendering plants reduces options for horse carcass disposal. There is also some concern with the presence of barbiturate residues, in rendered products, from chemically euthanized horses. For the limited areas where rendering is a disposal option, the cost for the rendering company to pick up the carcass ranges from \$75 to \$250 or more.

Disposal at landfills is also becoming increasingly difficult. Local regulations and the rules of the individual firms operating the landfill dictate disposal options. Landfills that accept horse carcasses will likely have a drop-off charge.

Incineration is a bio-secure method of carcass disposal, but it is costly. The cost to incinerate a horse ranges from \$600 to \$2,000 depending on fuel costs (Lenz, 2004). Incinerators must conform to air pollution regulations.

Composting horse carcasses is a disposal method currently being tested. Significant negative environmental externalities can be generated from a composting site. These include potential water contamination, nuisance odor from decaying carcasses, inadequate disease control, and the required surface application of the end compost product which may not be pathogen free. Composting is not likely to become a widespread option of carcass disposal.

An emerging technology is bio-digestion using alkaline hydrolysis to hydrolyze the animal carcass into a sterile aqueous solution. Some veterinary colleges and animal research facilities use this technology for carcass disposal. Although this is the most environmentally friendly and bio-secure disposal option, it is not a widely available disposal option for most horse owners. For areas where it is an option, it will likely have a substantial drop-off cost to dispose of the carcass.

For all disposal methods, except for on-site burial, transportation of the horse carcass to the disposal site creates issues pertaining to cost, disease transmission and potential exposure to the public of deceased animals. The increasing cost and difficulty of carcass disposal is emerging as a significant issue for horse owners with limited financial capacity to care for an unwanted horse. Eliminating horse processing as an option for unwanted horses will increase the demand on the already constrained methods of horse carcass disposal and creates a new source of negative environmental externalities. Bio-digesters are few in number. Incinerators are more common; however, increasing fuel costs eliminate this disposal option for many horse owners. The availability of rendering as an option is decreasing. This leaves burial and landfills as the most viable disposal option for low valued horses and creates a potential source of negative environmental impact.

Costs of Unwanted Horses: Loss of Value

The value of United States horsemeat sold for processing in 2002 was approximately \$26 million (FATUS, 2003). A federal ban on processing horses for meat export will eliminate these revenues completely. An even larger negative economic impact is that unwanted horses, which in the past could have been sold for processing, will now become a cost to the horse owner as he/she would be required to dispose of the horse in some other way. The loss in revenue is now combined with an expense for disposal of the horse. The result is all horses become somewhat less valuable. Eliminating the possibility of selling a horse for processing was estimated to decrease the value by approximately \$304 per horse (North et al., 2005). These authors suggest if a processing ban is imposed, the annual decrease in value for horses that would have been processed in the United States would be between \$19.7 and \$28.8 million. These figures represent an extremely conservative estimate of the financial impact of a processing ban, as they account only for the direct loss in revenues to horse owners who would have sold their horses for processing. The figures do not represent the effect on horse prices in general, or the cost of disposing of unwanted horses by some other method.

Potential Political Ramifications of Eliminating a Protein Source Currently Provided by the U.S.

Worldwide production of horsemeat has grown to 720,000 metric tons (MT) in 2005, which is up 38% since 1990. This is equivalent to 4.7 million horses, up from 2.8 million horses in 1990. In predominantly English speaking countries (such as the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, etc.) the consumption of horse meat is minimal; a cultural tradition does not include horses as food. Yet those countries are often exporters of horsemeat to non-Anglo countries that do consume this protein source. The leading horsemeat consumers appear to be the Chinese, who annually process an equivalent of 15% of the total United States horse population to provide their population with protein (FAO Database, 2006).

Nutritionally, four ounces (4 oz) of horsemeat contains 20% greater protein than high quality beef cuts (sirloin), 25% less fat, nearly 20% less sodium, double the iron and 1 mg less cholesterol than a 4 oz serving of beef sirloin (ARS-USDA, 2006). When compared to ground beef, horsemeat has 55% more protein, 25% less fat, 30% less cholesterol and 27% less sodium.

Net importers are mostly non-Anglo populations (e.g., Japan, France, Italy, Mexico, and China). Many European countries increased horsemeat consumption in the face of the BSE problems with beef.

FAO-UN reports 2004 U.S. imports of horsemeat at zero, while we exported 12,000 MT. Thirty-one (31) countries reporting horsemeat production increased their production by 500,000 horses from 1997 to 2005. The leading producers of horsemeat are China, Mexico, Argentina and Brazil. The first two have substantial ethnic populations in the United States. United States horsemeat export volume peaked in 1989 (at 59,000 MT) coincident with the BSE scare. The U.S. share of world exports is often less than 0.5%. Imports to the United States have been less than 1% of our exports and by 2004 were 0, while our exports were 12,000 MT primarily to Belgium and France (FAO – UN, 2006). Poland exported nearly the same level as the U.S. in 2004.

Where does the horsemeat go? Japan was a big market in the early 1980s (52,000 MT/year) but that has decreased to 6,000 to 8,000 MT. Recently, EU-15 imported 20 – 30% more horsemeat during the early part of the BSE crisis (1987 – 1990) but has subsided to pre-BSE levels of 107,000 MT in 2004. EU-15 wide imports are double their exports. In France horsemeat imports have fallen from 57,000 MT in 1980 to 27,000 MT in 2004, while their import-export ratio has fallen from 50% to 3 to 1. Italians are now importers of 22,000 MT of horsemeat, nearly the level of France. Brazil and Argentina export more than 20,000 MT but receive little in imports. The Dutch and Belgium-Luxemburg are big net importers, while Poland is a major net exporter (11,000 MT).

Table 3. Major Horsemeat Production Countries 2005 Annual and World Totals

Country	Animals	Production in M Tons
Italy	213,000	48,000
Mexico	626,000	78,876
Kazakhstan	340,000	55,100
Kyrgyzstan	150,000	25,000
China	1,700,000	204,000
Brazil	162,000	21,200
Argentina	255,000	55,600
Mongolia	310,000	38,000
Worldwide	4,727,829	720,168

Source: FAO-UN Horticultural Database

If United States policy were to forbid selling to food commerce, there may be potential political ramifications. Americans do not eat horsemeat, but others do. The largest consumption areas are developing countries. Loss of U.S. horses as a protein source will deprive many less fortunate and far older cultures than ours of a substantial food source.

Increase in Competition for the Wild Horse Adoption Program

An increased supply of low-value horses due to a processing ban will also create direct competition with the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) National Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program. The BLM has been working diligently to create a viable adoption program for BLM horses removed from national public lands. The BLM program will be negatively impacted by the increased competition for adoption placement between BLM horses and unwanted horses that would have otherwise been processed. This will increase the cost of the BLM program if they have a larger inventory of BLM horses to maintain due to lower adoption rates. The BLM enforces strict standards of care for horses in their control, whereas there are few, if any, governmental regulations in place specifically for rescue/adoption/retirement facilities.

Humane Handling at U.S. Processing Facilities is Highly Regulated

The United States is not a market for horsemeat for human consumption, nonetheless, humane handling of processed horses is more likely to occur in the U.S. than many other countries. In the U.S. the United States Department of Agriculture oversees horse processing. The likelihood of imposing U.S. humane standards for animal treatment and handling on other countries seems remote. Less wealthy nations will tolerate impositions to their operations if they have market access (e.g. west Mexico, fresh fruits and vegetables. However, with horse processing, the U.S., England, Ireland, Scotland, and Canada have no market opportunity to dissuade practices—which we consider unfavorable—in the rest of the world. Humane processing conditions can be imposed by the U.S. government only in the United States. Therefore, the welfare of horses would be better served if processing occurred in the U.S. versus most other countries.

Conclusion

The direct economic impact and future unintended—and currently unaccounted for— economic impact of banning horse processing for human consumption are substantial. Proponents have not addressed the inevitable costs of such a ban. Horse processing facilities offer a humane option for approximately 1% of the United States horse population. Welfare of the horse is the primary concern; tens of thousands of horses could be neglected or abandoned if a processing ban were imposed. Local and state governments will also be adversely impacted as a result of the proposed ban. Horse owners will feel a direct impact from lower horse sale prices. The severe economic consequences of a ban on processing can not be ignored, and must be addressed.

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Tara Sad <taraeric@gmail.com>

HB 1446-excepting equines from inspection, processing, and sale as meat within the state's meat inspection program

1 message

BRISCOE, Debbie <Debbie.BRISCOE@mersen.com>

Wed, Jan 18, 2012 at 12:41 PM

To: lharding0625@gmail.com, tara.eric@gmail.com

Dear Representatives

I am concerned:

That the change to HB 1446 may affect keeping equines as classified as livestock in the future-**Very important to keep equines as livestock/agricultural!**

The choice of slaughtering your own horse for food should not be affected-should be similar to wildlife and home raised animals. Thus equines should continue to be inspected if slaughter for human food. Slaughter facilities should be allowed to slaughter equines for private purposes.

I believe we should not allow commercial sale of equine meat to the public.

Debbie Briscoe

Equestrian Owner

This message may contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION intended only for use by the addressee. If you have received it by mistake, thank you for notifying us immediately by phone



Tara Sad <taraeric@gmail.com>

(no subject)

1 message

Cheryl Robinson <cmeer333@yahoo.com>**Wed, Jan 18, 2012 at 1:58 PM**

Reply-To: Cheryl Robinson <cmeer333@yahoo.com>

To: "tara.eric@gmail.com" <tara.eric@gmail.com>

Dear Representative Sad:

I am writing to you regarding your sponsorship of HB 1446. I will be in attendance at tomorrow's hearing in Concord. I will be there because I need you, and all our state representatives, to realize that HORSES are not for slaughter and they SHOULD NOT be a part of this bill.

There are many reasons that horses must be excluded from this bill. Their meat is unregulated and unsafe. 100 percent of all horses have been treated with some drug or another. From the simple wormers started early on in their lives to medications administered throughout their lives. All of these medications warn us that they are not be used on horses that will be used for human consumption.

Including horses in this bill will do absolutely nothing to promote the welfare of our horses. The process is inhumane and will not help with unwanted horses. In fact, it may snowball into the breeding of horses for slaughter. There is no problem with abandonment of horses in NH at this time but may lead to that with the abandonment of horses not fit for slaughter.

Have you ever checked into the employees of slaughter plants? Checked their criminal backgrounds? This cruel and inhumane treatment attracts unsavory characters who just may cause an increase in our violent crime rate.

Have you checked out any you tube videos on horse slaughter? Any of them will turn your stomach and make you question the legitimacy of this practice when it is a known fact that over 80% of Americans polled DO NOT WANT HORSE SLAUGHTER.

Thank you for your consideration. I am looking forward to tomorrow's hearing.

—Cheryl S. Robinson
174 Crown Point Road
Rochester, NH 03867-4137
603-833-9676

January 19, 2012

The Committee of Environment and Agriculture
New Hampshire State House
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: HB 1446 – Relative to the Meat Inspection Act

Dear Honorable Law Makers of New Hampshire:

As a New Hampshire resident, voter, equine rescuer and horse owner, I will provide a multitude of reasons why horse slaughter should be banned in New Hampshire and in fact, the United States. I will try to minimize the argument to four topics of concern for expediency, although there are more. If someone in New Hampshire would like to eat their horse, they can slaughter and butcher it themselves to do so. However, if we were to allow commercial horse slaughter into New Hampshire it will likely open the door to importing horses from across the country to our state for slaughter and sale on the open market. With the USDA lifting their defunding of horse meat inspections back in November, the door is wide open for abuse.

1. No horses are bred or raised in the United States for the purpose of consumption. Horses going to slaughter come from all walks of life. They are typically purchased at auctions and are often purchased under false pretenses. They may have been a slow race horse, breeder's cull, a child's pony, any pleasure horse, an Amish work horse or simply stolen from someone's pasture in the night. Kill buyers are not particular about where a horse originates from and will do seemingly anything to fill their quota and complete a load. Slaughter is considered a "salvage" market for horses. Americans, however, do not eat horses.

Horses and the cuts of meat they provide are completely unregulated in this country and therefore cannot be considered safe. Many, even most, of the medications horses ingest and have applied topically are clearly labeled as "not suitable for animals intended for human consumption". While withdrawal rates may exist, the FDA has classified horses as "companion animals". No American studies have been completed to determine what they may be. There is absolutely no tracking system in place for determining whether or not an equine has ingested permanently banned substances, medications which render the animal ineligible for slaughter after a single dose. One of the most common of these is phenylbutazone or "bute", a NSAID/Pain Reliever that is administered to virtually every horse in America at one time or another. It is permanently banned from entering the food chain, yet a blind eye is turned as the meat industry boasts "Stable to Table in Seven Days" and takes a race horse fresh off the track and full of bute to the slaughterhouse. There's a very long list of drugs, all banned and all widely used. Clenbuteral, a growth and muscle enhancer and furazone, a topical antibiotic are just a couple more of the widely used medications that are permanently banned from animals entering the food chain for consumption abroad. The brokers and kill buyers simply forge EID (equine identification) documents meaning that the tainted meat of our horses is on its way to the EU for human consumption, fraudulent paperwork in tow. Horse meat eating countries in the EU have a "Passport" tracking system and set withdrawal periods in place. They are getting wise to our lack of oversight and have insisted that horses originating in the USA comply with their standards. It's just a matter of time before our horses will be required to have a passport by six months of age in order to be eligible for slaughter. Remembering how quickly the NH Horse Community shot down legislation for licensing their animals, I'm left to wonder where funding for such a widespread national program will come from? The USDA has just significantly cut its funding for offices and staff, yet they have millions to oversee and inspect horse slaughter and a tracking program? Horses simply should NOT be eligible for slaughter, in NH, the country or for export. Our food chain and that of other nations should absolutely not be a dumping ground for recreation and sport animals never intended to be eaten. They are not safe to consume and slaughter is not a population control measure.

2. The Horse Slaughter Industry does nothing to promote welfare. They say horses will be starving if not slaughtered. Not so. Horses starve when their owners refuse to feed them or have no means to procure their food. It has nothing to do with the meat industry whatsoever. Horse Slaughter is inherently inhumane and will not help with the so-called "unwanted" horse population. Not one person who the NHSPCA has seized neglected horses from has said "if only there was slaughter"... Not one. Quite to the contrary, in fact. I've had people tell me directly that they were afraid to re-home their now neglected horses due to fear of them becoming victims of slaughter. The very worst cases of neglect and starvation I've seen have been at the feed lots and stock yards of Presidio, TX. Horses there that have been rejected at the border are returned to the lots and left to starve. When they succumb and perish they're simply bulldozed into a pile, strewn out in a dry river bed or left to decompose where they lay. Horses being brought in for slaughter will actually add to our issues. There will inevitably be animals that aren't fit for slaughter that will be turned away. Where will they go after that? The USDA has no system in place for tracking them. They simply fall off the roster. They have no idea how many will not be accepted at the slaughterhouse and the unscrupulous, unlawful members of the horse slaughter pipeline will often simply dump them out along the side of the road on the trip back to their stock yards. We have a viable and productive support system in place in NH. We truly don't have a big problem with neglect, starvation and abandonment in our state, let's not start now.
3. The horse slaughter pipeline carries with it unsavory characters that would be frequenting our state. If we allow this predatory and insidious industry in, we will be able to count on higher crime rates, lower property values surrounding the plant and a lot more horse theft. If you own horses, you should be very concerned about the prospect of horse slaughter in NH. Additionally, the transport vehicles are hazardous. Drivers are often tired and overworked. Time is money and when you're dealing with wholesale slaughter horses it's difficult to make a dollar; they will pack as many animals as possible into tractor trailers for long hauls with no rest stops. In turn putting the driving public in jeopardy as trucks with overloaded trailers and dynamic loads along with sleepy drivers careen down highways and local roads. We just witnessed an accident in Tennessee on Monday where a tractor trailer loaded with 38 horses overturned on the highway. Luckily no humans were seriously injured, only horses died - this time. What about the next time? I wonder how much it cost Tennessee to clean up the mess. The highway was completely blocked and closed for hours; dozens of first responders, Police, Firemen and EMTs were called to the scene. The traumatized, banged up but surviving horses were stuffed back into another truck to continue their trip to the feedlot and on to Mexico for slaughter. Unfortunately, those who died on the road in Tennessee were the lucky ones last Monday night.
4. The environmental impact of horse slaughter has been proven to be ecologically severe. Horses have a lot more blood than cows and their blood and offal by-products are considered toxic and not desired by any secondary market. Where will it all go? It has been proven in the past that those who create it don't care where it goes. The dumping of waste trucks full of rotting and toxic bones, heads, legs, blood and organs in rivers, lakes and forests would be likely in our state that is widely supported by septic system usage.

I hope that the New Hampshire legislature will make an informed decision with regard to the issues surrounding horse slaughter. We pray that horse slaughter and transport to slaughter will not be allowed in this state and that it will soon be permanently banned nationally. This predatory, inherently cruel, inhumane practice has no place in a civilized society that doesn't even eat the meat. The Equine Industry and the Meat Industry are two totally separate market places that should never be combined. Thank you for your time.

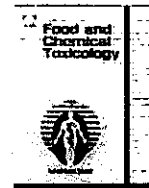
Best regards,

Suzanne Bryant
Farm Animal Care Coordinator
NHSPCA
603-721-2921 ext. 124

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Association of phenylbutazone usage with horses bought for slaughter: A public health risk

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ABSTRACT

Sixty-seven million pounds of horsemeat derived from American horses were sent abroad for human consumption last year. Horses are not raised as food animals in the United States and, mechanisms to ensure the removal of horses treated with banned substances from the food chain are inadequate at best. Phenylbutazone (PBZ) is the most commonly used non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) in equine practice. Thoroughbred (TB) race horses like other horse breeds are slaughtered for human consumption. Phenylbutazone is banned for use in any animal intended for human consumption because it causes serious and lethal idiosyncratic adverse effects in humans. The number of horses that have received phenylbutazone prior to being sent to slaughter for human consumption is unknown but its presence in some is highly likely. We identified eighteen TB race horses that were given PBZ on race day and sent for intended slaughter by matching their registered name to their race track drug record over a five year period. Sixteen rescued TB race horses were given PBZ on race day. Thus, PBZ residues may be present in some horsemeat derived from American horses. The permissive allowance of such horsemeat used for human consumption poses a serious public health risk.

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1. Introduction

Phenylbutazone (PBZ) was marketed in the United States for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and gout in 1952. Serious and often fatal adverse effects such as aplastic anemia and agranulocytosis appeared in the literature within three years of its use (Benjamin et al., 1981; Böttiger and Westerhom, 1973; Cameron et al., 1966; Chaplin, 1986; Deaths due to butazolidin, 1952; Dunn, 1972; Etes and Jacobson, 1953; Hale and DeGruchy, 1960; Leonard, 1953; Mauer, 1995; McCombs, 1958; Nelson et al., 1995; Ramsey and Golde, 1976; Risks of agranulocytosis and aplastic anemia, 1986; Steinberg et al., 1953). The serious adverse effects of PBZ culminated in its unavailability for human use in the United States.

Because of the bone marrow toxicity caused by PBZ in humans, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has set no safe levels of PBZ in animals intended for food and bans the administration of this drug in any horse sent to slaughter for human consumption (http://www.fda.gov/cvm/CVM_Updates/buteup.htm).

By 1990, over a dozen foreign-owned slaughter houses in the United States were slaughtering approximately 350,000 horses per year (weekly United States Department of Agriculture statistics up to 2007 when all of the slaughter plants were closed by state statutes: http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_LS711.txt), and the United States was exporting another 70,000 live horses per year for slaughter to Canada (monthly United States Department of Agriculture statistics: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade/USTExFatus.asp?QJ>).

Veterinary records from American horses sent to slaughter for human consumption are not available to the public. Moreover, horses are not raised as food animals in the United States and there appears to be inadequate testing to ensure that horses given banned substances such as PBZ do not enter the slaughter pipeline.

Thoroughbred race horses may have a higher rate of PBZ exposure because of their intense training and racing schedule. Thoroughbred race horses frequently develop training- or race-related musculoskeletal injuries that require treatment with a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID). Phenylbutazone is the most widely used NSAID in horses because of its availability and cost (Hopes, 1972; Goodrich and Nixon, 2006).

The method of identifying TB race horses by lip tattoo and PBZ administration from race track records makes it possible to determine PBZ exposure in horses that have raced at certain tracks that permit race day PBZ and record its administration.

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As the owner or designate of the animals identified on this document, I hereby certify that the information stated in this Sub Lot Equine Information Document is accurate and complete.

_____/_____/_____-_____-_____
 (Name/signature/phone number of owner/designate)
 ____/____/____ (Date DD/MM/YY)

E.5 List of Veterinary Drugs Not Permitted For Use in Equine Slaughtered for Food with Canadian Brand Name Examples (10 March, 2010)

Non Permitted Drug Name	Examples of Brand or Common Names	Species Indicated on the Label
5-Nitroimidazoles including dimetridazole, metronidazole, and ronidazole	Banned by regulations ¹ for sale in food producing animals in Canada. Not approved for veterinary use in Canada.	Not applicable N/A
Antibiotics used for growth promotion purposes such as olaquinox, carbadox, and tylosin	Carbadox Not currently marketed in Canada (stop sale order in effect)	N/A
Antibiotics used for growth promotion purposes such as olaquinox, carbadox, and tylosin	Olaquinox Not approved for veterinary use in Canada	N/A
Antibiotics used for growth promotion purposes such as olaquinox, carbadox, and tylosin	There are no antimicrobials approved for use as growth promotants for equine in Canada. Equine animals treated with antibiotics for growth promotion reasons are not eligible for slaughter in Canada.	Several antimicrobials (e.g., bacitracin, bambamycin, chlortetracycline, lincomycin, procaine penicillin, tylosin, virginiamycin etc.) have

		label claims for growth promotion/feed efficiency in other food producing animals (e.g., cattle, swine, poultry).
Aristolochia species and preparations thereof	Not approved for veterinary use in Canada.	N/A
Arsanilic acid	3-Nitro-20	Chicken, Turkey, Swine
Arsanilic acid	Histostat 50	Turkey
Arsanilic acid	Pro-Gen 20%	Chicken, Turkey
Arsanilic acid	Pro-Gen 100%	Chicken, Turkey
Beta-agonists used for growth promotion purposes, including clenbuterol and ractopamine	Clenbuterol Banned by regulations ¹ for sale in food producing animals in Canada.	N/A
Beta-agonists used for growth promotion purposes, including clenbuterol and ractopamine	Ractopamine Optaflexx 100 Premix	Cattle
Beta-agonists used for growth promotion purposes, including clenbuterol and ractopamine	Paylean 20	Swine
Beta-agonists used for growth promotion purposes, including clenbuterol and ractopamine	Ventipulmin Solution	Horses not intended for food
Beta-agonists used for growth promotion purposes,	Ventipulmin Syrup	Horses not intended for food

including clenbuterol and ractopamine		
Beta-agonists used for growth promotion purposes, including clenbuterol and ractopamine	Zilpaterol hydrochloride Zilmax Medicated Premix	Cattle
Boldenone	Equipoise Injectable Equipoise	Horses not intended for food
Chloramphenicol	Banned by regulations ¹ for sale in food producing animals in Canada. Chlor-500 Chlor-1000 Chloramphenicol 1% Ointment ChlorPalm 250	Dog, Cat
Chloroform	Approved as a veterinary drug in Canada, however currently not manufactured	N/A
Chlorpromazine	Not approved for veterinary use in Canada.	N/A
Colchicine	Not approved for veterinary use in Canada.	N/A
Dapsone	Not approved for veterinary use in Canada.	N/A
Methandriol	Not approved for veterinary use in Canada.	N/A
Nitrofurans including Furaltadone, Furazolidone, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone	Banned by regulations ¹ for sale in food producing animals in Canada. Furazolidone Not approved for veterinary use in Canada. Furox Aerosol Powder, Topazone Aerosol Powder, Furall registered for veterinary use in the USA.	N/A
Nitrofurans including Furaltadone, Furazolidone, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone	Furaltadone Not approved for veterinary use in Canada	N/A
Nitrofurans including	Nitro Ointment	Horses not intended for food

Furazolidone, Furaltadone, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone		
Nitrofurans including Furazolidone, Furaltadone, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone	Nitrofur Solution	Horses not intended for food
Nitrofurans including Furazolidone, Furaltadone, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone	Nitrofurantoin Equifur	Horses not intended for food, Dog, Cat
Nitrofurans including Furazolidone, Furaltadone, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone	Nitrofurazone Niderm Ointment	Horses not intended for food
Nitrofurans including Furazolidone, Furaltadone, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone	Nitrofurazone Ointment	General use
Nitrofurans including Furazolidone, Furaltadone, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone	Pinkaway Powder	Dog, Cat
Estradiol (for estradiol containing implants, see steroidal hormones below)	Estradiol Cypionate in Oil	Horses not intended for food, Cattle, Dog, Cat
Estradiol (for estradiol containing implants, see steroidal hormones below)	Estrus	Cattle

Estradiol (for estradiol containing implants, see steroidal hormones below)	Uni-Bol	Horses not intended for food
Phenylbutazone	Butazone 400 Butazone 1000 Butazone Concentrate Butequine Buzone Concentrate Phenylbutazone Phenylbutazone Injection Phenylbutazone Powder Phenylbutazone Tablets Phenylbutazone Tabs	Note: All of the products listed carry an indication for use in equine (but not equine intended to be slaughtered for food)
Resorcylic acid lactones including zeranol	Zeranol Ralgro	Beef Note that this product carries only a cattle indication
Stanozolol	No active products for veterinary use in Canada.	N/A
Steroidal hormonal implants used for growth promotion purposes	Equine animals treated with steroid containing hormone implants used to promote growth are not eligible for slaughter in Canada.	Note that these products carry only a cattle indication. Hormonal implants containing estradiol or melengestrol acetate singly, or the combinations of estradiol and progesterone; estradiol and testosterone; estradiol and trenbolone acetate etc. sold under different brand names for use in cattle.
Stilbenes, stilbene derivatives, and their salts and esters including diethylstilbestrol	Banned by regulations ¹ for sale in food producing animals in Canada. Diethylstilbestrol Stilbestrol	Dog, Cat
Stilbenes, stilbene derivatives, and their salts and esters including diethylstilbestrol	Stilbestrol Tablets	Dog, Cat

Thyrostats, antithyroid agents administered under any circumstances for the purpose of growth promotion	Approved for use in humans. Use in animals would be under veterinary control, but animals treated with these substances would not be eligible for slaughter.	N/A
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N/A: Not applicable as these active ingredients are not approved for veterinary use in Canada.

¹ As per Section C.01.610.1 of the *Food and Drug Regulations*:

No person shall sell a drug for administration to animals that produce food or that are intended for consumption as food if that drug contains

- (a) chloramphenicol or its salts or derivatives;
- (b) a 5-nitrofurantoin compound;
- (c) clenbuterol or its salts or derivatives;
- (d) a 5-nitroimidazole compound; or
- (e) diethylstilbestrol or other stilbene compounds

As per Section B.01.048 of the *Food and Drug Regulations*

(1) No person shall sell

- (a) any animal intended for consumption as food if any product containing any drug listed in subsection (2) has been administered to the animal;
- (b) any meat, meat by-products, eggs or milk intended for consumption as food and derived from an animal if any product containing any drug listed in subsection (2) has been administered to that animal; or
- (c) any meat, meat by-products, eggs or milk that contains any residue of any drug listed in subsection (2).

(2) The drugs referred to in subsection (1) are

- (a) chloramphenicol and its salts and derivatives;
- (b) a 5-nitrofurantoin compound;
- (c) clenbuterol and its salts and derivatives;
- (d) a 5-nitroimidazole compound; and
- (e) diethylstilbestrol and other stilbene compounds.

E.6 List of "Essential" Veterinary Drugs Permitted in Equine With a 6 Month Withdrawal Period With Canadian Brand Name Examples

Drug Use	Drug	Canadian Brand Name Examples
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Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Acepromazine	Ace Acevet 10 Tablets Acevet 25 Tablets Acevet Injection Atravet 10 mg Injectable Atravet Soluble Granules
Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Atipamezole	Antisedan
Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Diazepam	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Midazolam	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Naloxone	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Propofol	PropoFlo Rapinivet
Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Sarmazenil	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Tiletamine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Sedation and premedication (and antagonism)	Zolazepam	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Hypotension or respiratory stimulation during anaesthesia	Dobutamine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Hypotension or respiratory stimulation during anaesthesia	Dopamine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Hypotension or respiratory stimulation during anaesthesia	Ephedrine	Antihistamine Antihistamine Powder Antihist Solution Pyrahist-10
Hypotension or respiratory stimulation during anaesthesia	Glycopyrrolate	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada

Hypotension or respiratory stimulation during anaesthesia	Noradrenaline	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Analgesia	Buprenorphine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Analgesia	Fentanyl	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Analgesia	Morphine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Analgesia	Pethidine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Muscle relaxants and associated substances	Atracurium	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Muscle relaxants and associated substances	Edrophonium	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Muscle relaxants and associated substances	Guaifenesin	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada for the use indicated
Inhalation anaesthetics	Sevoflurane	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Local anaesthetics	Bupivacaine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Local anaesthetics	Oxybuprocaine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Local anaesthetics	Prilocaine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Cardiovascular	Digoxin	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Cardiovascular	Quinidine sulfate and quinidine gluconate	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Cardiovascular	Procainamide	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Cardiovascular	Propranolol	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Convulsions	Phenytoin	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Convulsions	Primidone	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Gastrointestinal	Bethanechol	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada

Gastrointestinal	Diocetyl Sodium Sulfosuccinate	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Gastrointestinal	Metoclopramide	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Gastrointestinal	Propantheline bromide	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Rhabdomyolysis	Dantrolene sodium	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Antimicrobials	Ticarcillin	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Antimicrobials	Azithromycin	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Antimicrobials	Rifampicin	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Antimicrobials	Amikacin	Amiglyde-V
Respiratory	Ambroxol	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Respiratory	Ipratropium bromide	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Respiratory	Oxymetazoline	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Antiprotozoal	Isometamidium	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Antiprotozoal	Pyrimethamine	Quinnoxine-S Sulfaquinoxaline-S
Ophthalmic	Acyclovir	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Idoxuridine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Phenylephrine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Tropicamide	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Dorzolamide	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Latanoprost	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Timolol maleate	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Cyclosporin A	Optimmune

Ophthalmic	Ketorolac	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Ofloxacin	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Fluoresceine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Rose Bengal	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Ophthalmic	Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Hyperlipaemia	Insulin	Caninsulin
Fungal infection	Griseofulvin	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Fungal infection	Ketoconazole	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Fungal infection	Miconazole	Conofite Cream 2% Dermazole Shampoo Surolan Drops
Fungal infection	Nystatin	Canaural Ear Drops Panalog Cream Panalog Ointment
Miscellaneous	Chondroitin Sulfate	Chotin
Miscellaneous	Domperidone	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Miscellaneous	Hydroxyethyl starch	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Miscellaneous	Imipramine	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Miscellaneous	Thyrotropin releasing hormone	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Miscellaneous	Barium sulphate	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Miscellaneous	Iohexol	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada
Miscellaneous	Iopamidol	No known manufacture for veterinary use in Canada

E.7 List of Veterinary Drugs Safe For Use in Equine Intended For Food Production For Which Withdrawal Periods Have Been Determined With Canadian Brand Name Examples

Health Canada recommends the following provisional withdrawal periods (WP) for veterinary drugs in equine intended for food production. The following Table will be updated periodically with the inclusion of new drugs or revised withdrawal periods, when additional information (e.g., new data from the drug sponsor) becomes available. When the label recommended WPs are not specific to equine, Health Canada recommends using the provisional WPs listed in the following table.

Antimicrobials

Drug	Approved Canadian Products	Route	WP
Amikacin	Amiglyde-V (Wyeth)	Intrauterine	6 months
Ceftiofur	Excenel Sterile Powder for injection (Pfizer)	Intramuscular (IM)	5 days
Gentamicin	Gentocin (Intervet)	Intrauterine	45 days
Neomycin	Neomycin (\pm astringents \pm electrolytes \pm anticholinergic): Biosol Liquid (Pfizer) NeoMed 325 (Bio Agri Mix) Neomix Soluble powder (Pfizer) Neomycin 325 (Vetoquinol) Scour Solution CO-OP (IPCO) Scour Solution (Vetoquinol)	Oral	30 days
Neomycin and sulphonomide combinations	Neomycin and sulfonamides (\pm astringents \pm electrolytes \pm anticholinergic): Calf Scour Bolus (PVL) Neorease (Bimeda-MTC) NeoSulfalyte Bolus (Pfizer) Scour-Plug (Can-Vet) Scour Treat (Citadel) Super Scour Calf Bolus (Dominion)	Oral	30 days
Procaine penicillin	Co-op Penicillin G procaine Inj (IPCO) Depocillin (Intervet) Hi-Pencin 300 (Remedy Animal Health/Equivet)	IM	28 days

	Pen Aqueous (Wyeth) Pen G Injection (Citadel) Penicillin G procaine (Vetoquinol) Penicillin G procaine (Novopharm) Penmed (Medprodex) Penpro (Vetoquinol) Pen Vet 300 (Alfasan/Rafter 8) Procaine Penicillin G (Dominion) Procillin (Bimeda-MTC)		
Benzathine penicillin (in combination with procaine penicillin)	Benzapro Liquid (Medprodex) Duplocillin LA (Intervet) Longisil (Vetoquinol) Procillin LA (Bimeda-MTC)	IM	60 days
Sulfonamides ¹	Sulfonamides (\pm astringents \pm electrolytes \pm anticholinergic): Sodium Sulfamethazine Liq 25% (Citadel) Sulfa 25% Solution (Bimeda- MTC) Sulfamethazine Bolus 15 g (Dominion) Sulfamethazine Bolus 15 g (PVL) Triple Sulfa Bolus (PVL) Triple Sulfa Bolus (Dominion)	Oral	12 days
Potentiated sulfonamides	Sulfonamide-trimethoprim (Oral): Uniprim Oral Powder (Macleod) Uniprim Oral Granules (Macleod)	Oral	7 days
Potentiated sulfonamides	Sulfonamidetrimethoprim (Injectable): Tribriksen 48% (Intervet/Schering)	Intravenous (IV) or IM	12 days
Tetracycline	Tetra 4000 (Jaapharm) Tetrabol (Vetoquinol)	Intrauterine	18 days

Parasiticides

Drug	Approved Canadian Products	Route	WP
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Fenbendazole	Panacur Paste 10% (Intervet) Safe-Guard Paste 10% (Intervet) Panacur Suspension 10% (Intervet) Safe-Guard Suspension 10% (Intervet) Panacur Granules 22.2% (Intervet)	Oral	13 days
Ivermectin	Bimectin Oral Paste (Bimeda-MTC) Equell Oral Paste (Vibrac/ Pfizer) Eqvalan Paste (Merial) Eqvalan Liquid (Merial) Panomec Oral Paste (Merial) Zimecterin Paste (Merial)	Oral	28 days
Ivermectin and Praziquantel	Equimax Oral Paste (Vibrac/ Bimeda-MTC/ Pfizer/ Vetoquinol) Eqvalan Gold Paste (Merial)	Oral	28 days
Moxidectin	Quest Gel (Wyeth)	Oral	36 days
Moxidectin and praziquantel	Quest Plus Gel (Wyeth)	Oral	36 days
Piperazine	<p>Powder/pellet formulations:</p> <p>Alfalfa Pellet Horse Wormer 50% (Farnam) Co-op Wormer 52% (IPCO) Piperazine 100 Oral Powder (Medprodex) Piperazine 52 (Vetoquinol) Piperazine Dihydrochloride 53% (Dominion) Piperazine Dihydrochloride 53% (PVL) Wonder Wormer for Horses 100% (Farnam)</p> <p>Liquid formulations:</p> <p>Piperazine 34 (Vetoquinol) Piperazine 34 Liq (PVL) Super Pipzine 34% (Dominion)</p>	Oral	21 days
Pyrantel	Exodus Paste 23.6 g (Bimeda-MTC) Exodus Paste 47.2 g (Bimeda-MTC) Strongid P (Pfizer) Strongid T (Pfizer)	Oral	7 days

Tranquilizers/Sedatives/Anaesthetics

Drug	Approved Canadian Products	Route	WP
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Acepromazine	Oral formulations: Ace Powder (Jaapharm) Atravet Soluble Granules (Wyeth)	Oral IM, IV	6 months
Acepromazine	Injectable formulations: Acepro-25 (Bimeda-MTC) Acepromazine Inj (Univet) Acevet (Vetoquinol) Atravet Inj (Wyeth)	IM, IV	6 months
Butorphanol	Torbugesic (Wyeth)	IV	7 days
Detomidine	Dormosedan (Orion/Pfizer)	IM, IV	7 days
Lidocaine	Lidocaine Neat (Wyeth) Lurocaine (Vetoquinol)	Subcutaneous (SC), IM	7 days
Lidocaine and epinephrine	Lido-2 (Rafter 8; lidocaine HCl - 20 mg/mL, epinephrine HCl - 0.01 mg/mL) Lidocaine 2% Sterile Injectable (Vetoquinol, Lidocaine HCl - 20 mg/mL, epinephrine 0.01 mg/mL) Lidocaine HCl 2% (Wyeth; lidocaine HCl 20 mg/mL, epinephrine HCl - 0.01 mg/mL) Lidocaine HCl 2% with Epinephrine (Bimeda-MTC) Lidocaine HCl 2% with Epinephrine 1:100,000 (P.V.L) Lidocaine HCl 2% with Epinephrine 1:100,000 (Dominion)	SC, IM	7 days
Romifidine	Sedivet (Boehringer)	IV	14 days
Thiopental	Thiotal 1 G (Vetoquinol) Thiotal 5 G (Vetoquinol)	IV	7 days
Xylazine	Anased Inj 100 mg/mL (Vet-A-Mix) NvAnased Injectable 100 mg/mL (Novopharm) Rompun Injectable 100 mg/mL (Bayer) Xylamax Injection 100 (Bimeda-MTC)	IM, IV	35 days

Glucocorticoids

Drug	Approved Canadian Products	Route	WP
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Dexamethasone	Dexamethasone Dexacort 5 (Rafter 8) Dexamethasone 2 (Vetoquinol) Dexamethasone 5 (Vetoquinol) Dexamethasone 21 Phosphate Injection (Dominion) Dexamethasone Injectable 2 mg/mL (Dominion) Dexamethasone Injectable 2 mg/mL (P.V.L) Dexamethasone Pwr (Dominion) Dexamethasone Powder (Vetoquinol) Dexone (Jaapharm) Rafter Dex (Alfasan/Rafter 8) UniDex (Univet)	Oral, IV, IM	21 days
Dexamethasone and trichlormethiazide	Naquasone (Schering)	IM	21 days
Prednisolone	Prednisolone: Depo-Medrol (Pfizer) Depo-Medrol Sterile Aqueous Suspension (Pfizer) Methylprednisolone acetate (PVL) Prednisolone Acetate Inj (Dominion) Prednisolone Acetate Sus (PVL) Prednisolone Injection (Vetoquinol) Prednisolone Sod Succinate (Univet) Solu-Delta-Cortef (Pfizer) Solu-Delta-Cortef Sterile Solution (Pfizer) Uni-Med (Univet) Uni Pred 50 (Univet) Vetacortyl (Vetoquinol)	IM, IV, Intra articular	28 days

Nonsteroidal antiinflammatory

Drug	Approved Canadian Products	Route	WP
Flunixin	Banamine solution (Schering) Cronyxin Inj (Cross Vetpharm/Bioniche) Flunazine (Bimeda-MTC)	IM, IV	IV: 10 days IM: 30 days

	Flunixin Injection (Norbrook/Wyeth) Influx-50 (Vetoquinol) Suppressor (Norbrook/Kane)		
Ketoprofen	Anafen Injection 100 mg/mL (Merial)	IM, IV	7 days
Vedaprofen	Quadrisol 100 (Intervet)	Oral	21 days
Vedaprofen	Quadrisol i.v. 50 Inj (Intervet)	IV	21 days

Steroids

Drug	Approved Canadian Products	Route	WP
Altrenogest	Regu-mate solution 0.22% (Intervet)	Oral	42 days
Progesterone ²	Progesterone 5% (Vetoquinol)	IM	14 days
Testosterone ³	Testosterone Propionate Injection (Dominion) Uni-Test (Univet)	IM	28 days

Miscellaneous

Drug	Approved Canadian Products	Route	WP
Furosemide	Furosemide Injection (Sandoz) Salix Inj (Intervet)	IM, IV	7 days
Omeprazole	Gastrogard (Merial)	Oral	3 days
Sodium iodide	Sodide (Rafter 8) Sodium Iodide (Bimeda-MTC) Sodium Iodide 20% Inj (Univet) Sodium Iodide Inj 20% (PVL) Sodium Iodide Inj 20% (Dominion)	IV	0 days
Trichlormethiazide and dexamethasone	Naquasone (Schering)	IM	21 days

¹ For sulfonamide and neomycin combinations, see neomycin and sulfonamide combinations above

² Withdrawal period applies only for therapeutic use.

³ Withdrawal period applies only for therapeutic use. Combination products containing testosterone and other steroids (e.g., estradiol) are not approved for use in food producing horses.

E.8 Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Q1 Why should I fill out an EID?

A1 All equine which may be used for food must be presented with a completed and acceptable Equine Information Document (EID) at the time of slaughter since July 31, 2010. In the event that the animal becomes unwanted, if the owner wants to keep the salvage value and salvage options with respect to human consumption of their animal as high as possible, they will need to accurately fill out an EID for animals they wish to sell.

Q2 Will all equine owners need to fill out an EID?

A2 It is not mandatory that all equine owners fill out Equine Information Documents for equine they own. The requirement applies to equine which may be used for food.

Q3 Why do we have to keep track of medication used since January 31, 2010?

A3 Slaughter facilities handling equine in Canada will need at least a six month history of medication use for equine brought to the facility.

Q4 When do I need to fill out the EID?

A4 The EID can be filled out any time before the sale of your equine, but it is important to keep track of medications used and illness occurrence during the time you own the animal, either on the EID itself or another record used to fill out the EID before you sell your animal.

Q5 How do I include pictures of my horse in the document?

A5 A digital camera is very useful for taking the required pictures. A little computer work can lead to a page containing the required pictures. This page can be printed with a colour printer. Alternatively, the colour pictures can be formatted or printed by many retail outlets which currently offer this service.

Q6 What are non permitted drugs?

A6 Non permitted drugs are drugs that shall not be given or fed to equine which may be used for food. The list of non permitted drugs is available in section E.5 of this annex.

Q7 Is Phenylbutazone is banned?

A7 The use of Phenylbutazone in equine for medical reasons is not currently banned in Canada. However; Phenylbutazone is not permitted to be used in equine animals that may be used for food. (See Question and Answer 6)

Q8 Do we have to keep a record of feed supplements or nutraceuticals administered to equine?

A8 It would depend on the ingredients contained in the feed supplement or nutraceutical. Most feed supplements contain, in addition to feed ingredients, vitamins and minerals which do not have withdrawal periods, so they would not need to be declared on the EID. Similarly, nutraceutical formulations of substances that naturally occur in the body do not have withdrawal periods. If, however, the supplement or nutraceutical did contain a drug ingredient, the supplement/nutraceutical would need to be declared on the EID. When in doubt, consult your veterinarian.

Q9 What is a withdrawal period?

A9 A withdrawal period is the minimum number of days or hours that must expire since the last treatment of a specified medication or vaccine (used as per label directions) before the animal may be slaughtered for food.

Q10 Where do I get the information for drug withdrawal periods or intervals?

A10 The product label should be checked for withdrawal periods established for equine. Also section E.6 of this annex contains a list of drugs for which a 6 month withdrawal period is required. Section E.7 of this annex contains a list of drugs that are safe to be given or fed to equine which may be used for food. Withdrawal intervals for named drugs will be included with this list. With respect to drugs given under a veterinary/client/patient relationship that can be safely given or fed to equine which may be used for food that may not appear on the list, your veterinarian must be consulted before use. Consult with your veterinarian about the possibility of obtaining a valid withdrawal period determination from a credible source before use of the drug.

Q11 What do I do about recording withdrawal periods for drugs my veterinarian tells me are safe for use in other food producing animals, but have no label instructions regarding the use in equine destined for food, or have a label statement that says not for use in equine intended to be slaughtered for food?

A11 See answer A10.

Q12 Are these new rules expected to change?

A12 Yes, these new requirements are only the first step towards strengthening Canada's food safety and traceability system for equine.

Q13 Will imported horses be subject to the same requirements?

A13 Yes, imported horses when presented for slaughter at Canadian slaughter establishments will be required to meet this new Canadian standard for equine meat production in Canada.

Q14 Will these requirements only apply to meat products exported to the European Union?

A14 No, these requirements will apply to all equine presented for slaughter in Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) inspected facilities.

Q15 Who will be responsible for checking the EIDs before slaughter?

A15 The primary responsibility for compliance to requirements in slaughter facilities inspected by the CFIA remains with the operator of the establishment. The establishment operator will be required to ensure that each equine presented for slaughter has a complete and acceptable EID covering at least a six month consecutive time period before slaughter. The CFIA will oversee the effectiveness of the operator's ante-mortem review procedures with respect to the EID.

Q16 Is it possible to include more than one horse on an EID?

A16 The EID represents the minimum information required prior to slaughter in an acceptable format. However, certain conditions may exist that would allow for multiple equine animals to be included on one EID type document such as holding a group of equine for a six month period with a recorded inventory control system. If common medical history, medication history and owner declaration can be made and recorded in an acceptable record format deemed satisfactory to the CFIA, a common EID may be acceptable. The CFIA must give prior approval to this record format and system prior to use. See section E.4 for further details.

Q17 Are non permitted drugs not to be used in an equine presented for slaughter for the life of the animal or just for six months?

A17 The non permitted drugs are listed under section E.5 of this annex. Non permitted drugs are not to be used in equine intended for food production. During a transition period, the EID will be reviewed to determine if equine have or have not been treated with non permitted drugs during the six months prior to their slaughter. A longer "certification period" will eventually be requested.

Q18 If I sell my equine at an auction, does the auction become the owner, that is have care and control of my equine, for a period of time and need to fill out an EID?

A18 No, the buyer of the animal assumes the care and control of the equine after the last date of care or control indicated on the EID filled out by the previous owner (or transient agent); that is the date the animal was delivered to the auction premise. Any medication use on the auction premise is to be declared to the buyer by auction management. Generally this information is given to potential buyers from the auctioneer as the animal is sold.

Q19 Along with the EID I have completed, I am forwarding a previous EID completed by a former owner to the buyer of my equine; am I responsible for the information on that previous EID?

A19 No. Each owner signs for the dates of care or control indicated on their own EID.

Q20 Why were these requirements created; were horse meat products not safe to eat?

A20 Meat products produced at registered facilities in Canada are produced and inspected to verify that they meet current food safety requirements. Procedures are already in place to detect and control potential veterinary drugs and chemical residues in the meat supply. These new requirements for equine will enhance food safety for equine meat products in response to international trading partners' requests and Canada's own objectives.

Q21 Will all horses intended for food production need to be placed into a lot program?

A21 No. The new requirements ask for a documented history for at least six months preceding slaughter. Grouping horses for six months under a lot program is an option, but is not required.

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Mystery Surrounding Abandoned Horses Finally Solved

Chicago (EWA) – A six month investigation by the EWA and other animal investigation organizations has finally determined the predominant source of abandoned horses in the Southwestern US. The findings show that most or all of more than 5,000 horses a year are being abandoned after being rejected for slaughter at the Mexican border.

The investigation explains the source and reason for abandonments, most of which have been reported in the vast stretches of isolated land north of the Mexican border since 2009. Most of these horses could clearly be identified as domestic stock from such indications as nail holes in their hooves (where shoes had recently been removed) but no other clues to their source were found.

Until now articles about their discovery have speculated that they were abandoned by individual owners because they could no longer afford to feed them. The horse slaughter lobby has further suggested that this was made worse because individuals "no longer had a slaughter option".

Equine advocates countered this hypothesis by pointing out that there had been no decrease in slaughter to force such actions, and that the areas where they were being found did not have significant domestic horse populations.

Moreover, it made no sense that someone who could not afford to euthanize and bury a horse would elect instead to pay for hauling it hundreds or thousands of miles only to turn it loose. In fact, many horse advocates had good reason to suspect the reports were bogus.

Following the closure of US horse slaughter plants in 2007, there were a large number of stories published claiming horses were being abandoned because of a lack of slaughter. These reports ranged from reclaimed strip mines in Kentucky to the Florida Everglades and Oregon ranches. For a year each of these was investigated and found to be false or hugely distorted.

But in the past two years there have been an increasing number of authenticated reports of abandoned horses, mostly in the remote stretches of the southwest Border States. A few of these horses actually had hide removed, apparently to obscure a brand.

In August, the first piece of the puzzle fell into place when approximately 300 horses were spotted from the air starving and dead in a remote feedlot near the port-of-entry town of Presidio, Texas.

The fact that living horses were found in different stages of starvation and the dead horses were in various stages of decomposition, indicated they had been dumped there at different times.

The situation became all the more puzzling when it was revealed that the feedlot was operated by the C4 Cattle Company and Intermeat Inc./Dallas Crown the Belgian meat company that had formerly operated the Dallas Crown horse slaughter plant in Kaufman, Texas. The company buys horses for slaughter in Mexico. It was also discovered that about 40 of the horses came from kill buyer Trenton Saulters.

The question was of course why they had left the horses to perish only a few miles from the border crossing where they could have been sold to the slaughter plants in Mexico.

An answer came in the European Union's (EU's) report (DG(SANCO) 2010-8524 - MR) from the 2010 audit of their horse slaughter plants in Mexico. In section 5.2.1.2, the report divulged that Mexico had rejected 5,336 slaughter horses out of 62,560 presented at six OISAs (Border Crossing Offices) during the audit period between January and October 2010.

The horses were rejected under a new system of controls implemented in December, 2009. Reasons for rejection included health problems, advanced pregnancy and injuries.

The final piece of the puzzle came from an investigation by EWA on how the USDA's APHIS (Animal and Plant Inspection Service) tracks horses bound for slaughter. EWA's Valerie James-Patton was researching the Owner/Shipper certificate system which is supposed to allow APHIS to assure humane regulations are being followed. When asked what happens to horses rejected at the Mexican border, she was told simply "they fall out of the system."

Normally kill buyers who haul slaughter horses to Mexico try to fill their trailers with cattle and other animals on the return journey. So clearly they need to dispose of the rejected horses, and the most economical way to do so is to simply abandon them on a deserted stretch of road or in an isolated lot.

Ironically, while the horse slaughter lobby has been claiming abandonment was a result of a lack of slaughter, it now appears it is in large part a result of the practice.

#

The Equine Welfare Alliance is a dues-free 501c4, umbrella organization with over 210 member organizations and hundreds of individual members worldwide. The organization focuses its efforts on the welfare of all equines and the preservation of wild equids. www.equinewelfarealliance.org

To: House Environmental and Agriculture Subcommittee

From: Patricia Morris

Date: January 26, 2012

Re: HB 1446: amendment to meat inspection act

This memo is my attempt to answer some of the questions asked at the Public Hearing on January 19, 2012 concerning equine slaughter and expand on why horse slaughter differs from other livestock slaughter. I have provided citations to the state laws or formal studies that support the statements listed below (to avoid "inflammatory" remarks or opinions).

NH has specific statutes concerning the treatment of horses and the importation of horses into our state. These statutes are not common to other states, making NH different. These laws, specifically the treatment of horses under RSA 435 are applicable to all horses in NH, including those bound for slaughter.

I. Treatment of Horses.

Proper Care (435:12) – no person shall torture, beat, mutilate or abandoned any horse or aid in such abuse or permit any horse in her/her care to be subject to abuse of any kind.

Proper Feeding (435:13) – receive roughage in proportion to size/age, grain may be required, fed on regular daily schedule, all food shall be clean/free from excessive moisture. Sufficient quantity of fresh water required.

Shelter Available (435:14) – Must have either (1) adequately vented, dry barn with stalls of sufficient size so the horse can lie down, provided adequate and suitable exercise in arenas or paddocks or (2) roofed shelter, 3 sided from 11/1 – 4/15 for horses kept in pastures/paddocks. Shelter must be minimum of 100 sq feet per horse over 750 pounds and 50 sq feet for those under 750 pounds.

NH Agr 3700 rules provide details as to these statutes.

II. Importing Horses into NH.

NH RSA 436:95 – shall be accompanied by an official interstate health certificate, which must certify the horse has been officially tested and found to be negative to EIA (Coggins test) in a 6 month period prior to importation. The test and certificate must be signed by an accredited veterinarian. There must be one certificate for each horse which must list: the owner, owner's address, trainer or responsible person for the horse, name and registration number of the horse, age, sex, color and identifying marks and a full description of the horse. The health certificate must be within 30 days of importation (Agr 2103.04(c)).
Summary: Coggins test (must be sent to lab and takes 5-10 days) 6 month prior to import, health certificate 30 days.

If a horse is found to have a disease or its health certificate is not satisfactory, horse must be quarantined (or can be returned to owner). Thus every slaughter facility would need to have a quarantine area, separate from the slaughter facilities.

Horses imported for slaughter are permitted to import under 436:95(II) after a special permit from the state veterinarian is issued.

III. Importing: Human Health and Safety.

Adulterated Meat Products: Unlike other livestock such as pigs and cows, horses are never raised for meat, at least not currently in the U.S. They are bred for farming, recreation, racing, eventing, endurance, and showing, among other things. Thus, their treatment over their lives includes prescription medications and vaccines, including routine worming for parasites,

EU- UK- any horse which has ever received a medication that is banned for use in food producing animals, is forever prohibited from entering the food chain. That list is attached.

"Bute". Phenylbutazone is a known carcinogen, prohibited in food sources by the USDA and FDA. A blood test may identify "bute" was administered to a horse in the recent couple days (estimated at 3) but there is no blood test to determine whether a horse has ever been given bute. Can be given via a cream (surpass).

Gastroguard for ulcers. Very common in eventing and sport horses.

Vaccinations- at least 21 days from slaughter date (how will that be tracked?)

Tranquilizers: (acepromazine, xylazine) – sedate a horse from loading on a trailer, to vet uses such as to administer dental or sheath cleaning, surgery, IA shots...

Wormers such as ivermectin and pyrantel.

Communicable diseases: Horses are common carriers of both EEE and WNV. We have had outbreaks of both diseases in horses in NH within the past 5 years. Human health is at risk from EEE and EMV. These diseases are communicable to humans, as well as to other horses. There are equine vaccinations for these diseases, however vaccinations are not required to import into N.H. NH RSA 436:95.

Transportation – Annual headlines detail tractor trailer accidents, the trucks transporting 30+ horses to slaughterhouses. (Oklahoma, 30 horses overturned, 11 died, people stopped on Turnpike to help the loose and injured horses, Tennessee on I-40, 38 horses on board, 3 died, blocked the highway and rerouted traffic for hours and 100 people stopped cars to help) That was in normal driving conditions. NH has ice, snow, hydroplaning... Increasing the chance of such accidents on our state highways.

IV. Municipalities.

Horses are considered agricultural per statute (NH RSA 21:34-a). Indisputably, a commercial equine slaughterhouse would have to be located in a commercially zoned area of a town, not an agricultural zoned area of town.

Many towns, especially those more urban, have regulations on horse possession. For example, Hollis requires 2 acres of land per horse. Salem requires a 5 acre minimum to have any horses. It is my understanding many towns have these types of restrictions on horse ownership. That could require equine slaughterhouses to lease/rent/buy massive plots of land.

Many towns also have ordinances on carcass burial, mainly due to ground water issues. Since equine carcass and blood have no known secondary uses (such as leather, stipe, etc), what would be done with them? Bury on site if permitted? Local transfer station if permitted? Who will monitor this? The mayor of the Tx town that once housed an equine slaughter facility is very vocal about the stink, flies, predators that arose from carcasses sitting in summer heat waiting for burial or removal.

The state has a Best Manure Practice law, enforced by DAMF, to ensure horse manure is properly disposed of and/or removed from the site. Who will monitor this?

V. Animal Cruelty Laws.

Cruelty laws (644:8(III)) hold a person guilty of a misdemeanor for first offense, felony for second offense, if a horse is negligently deprived of necessary care, sustenance or shelter. Upon first offense, by order of licensed veterinarian, can be seized and if convicted, the animals may be disposed of by the court. How would this work in a slaughter type environment? NH does not have the resources to manage a large number of horses- currently our equine community through private individuals and several non profits, work together and successfully manage our "unwanted" horse population (from bankruptcies to cruelty seizures). Furthermore, NH towns do not have the resources to pay the care costs (\$20/day/horse) to hold horses during trial, which can be upwards of a year. See Candia seizure of \$15k (6 weeks at NH SPCA), Winchester of \$10k (unsure of duration).

VI. NH equine community.

In 2009- 2010, the Miami killing fields – "backyard mutilations". Articles Attached. Black market for meat exists, add in this economy, and its quick way to make some serious money. Assuming a slaughter horse is bought for \$100, and horse meat is between \$7-\$40/pound, 500 pounds is a huge profit, minimum \$3400 profit. What about two draft horses stolen from a working farm? That could bring in over \$10,000 in profit.

The threat of the mutilation and theft among our horses would change the atmosphere and livelihood of many equestrians.

Veterinarians for Equine Welfare

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Drugs prohibited for use in horses intended for human consumption

Ingredient Name: phenylbutazone
Trade Names: Phenylzone (Schering), Bute Tabs (Vedco), Phenylbute (Phoenix Pharmaceutical)

- Phenylbutazone (commonly referred to as "bute") is currently approved only for oral and injectable use in dogs and horses. Use in horses is limited to use in horses not intended for food. There are currently no approved uses of phenylbutazone in food-producing animals.

<http://www.fda.gov/OHRMS/DOCKETS/98fr03-4741.htm>

Ingredient Name: acepromazine maleate
Trade Name: PromAce (Fort Dodge)
<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AnimalVeterinary/Products/ApprovedAnimalDrugProducts/FOIADrugSummaries/ucm061778.pdf>
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=015-030>

Ingredient Name: boldenone undecylenate
Trade Name: Equipoise (Fort Dodge)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=034-705>

Ingredient Name: omeprazole
Trade Name: GastroGard
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=141-123>

Ingredient Name: ketoprofen
Trade Name: Ketofen (Fort Dodge)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=140-269>

Ingredient Name: ivermectin
Trade Names: EQVALAN (Merial), Zimecterin (Merial), Equell (Pfizer), IverCare (Farnam)
EQVALAN: <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=134-314>
Zimecterin: <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=134-314>

Ingredient Name: xylazine HCl
Trade Names: Anased (Lloyd), Sedazine (Fort Dodge), Xyla-Ject (Phoenix Pharmaceutical)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=140-442>

Ingredient Name: hyaluronic acid (sodium hyaluronate)
Trade Names: Hyalovet (Fort Dodge), HyLartin V (Pharmacia & Upjohn), Legend (Bayer Animal Health)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=140-806>

Ingredient Name: pyrantel tartrate
Trade Name: Strongid C and Banminth (Pfizer), Purina® Horse & Calf Wormer (Virbac AH, Inc.)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=042-888>

Ingredient Name: nitrofurazone
Trade Names: NFZ Puffer (Hess & Clark, Inc.), Fura Ointment (Farnam Companies, Inc.)
NFZ Puffer: <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=011-164>
Fura Ointment: <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=100-854>

Ingredient Name: polysulfated glycosaminoglycan (PSGAG)
Trade Name: Adequan (Luitpold Pharmaceuticals, Inc.)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=140-801>

Ingredient Name: clenbuterol HCl
Trade Names: Ventipulmin® Syrup (Boehringer Ingelheim)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=140-873>

Ingredient Name: tolazoline HCl
Trade Name: Tolazine (Lloyd, Inc.)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=140-894>

Ingredient Name: moxidecin
Trade Name: Quest® 2% Equine Oral Gel and Quest® Gel (Fort Dodge)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=141-087>

Ingredient Name: ponazuril
Trade Name: Marquis™ Antiprotozoal Oral Paste (Bayer Animal Health)
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/details.cfm?dn=141-188>

This is only a partial list. Please visit the FDA's website for more information on the proper use of medication for horses.
<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/animaldrugsatfda/>

Veterinarians for Equine Welfare

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Fact Sheet: Medications and US Horsemeat

Veterinarians for Equine Welfare (VEW) welcomes the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's new policy regarding equine health and medical treatments, but also remains cautious about its actual implementation and impact.

The policy recently announced by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) with assistance from the Veterinary Drug Directorate (VDD) of Health Canada was in response to stricter requirements recently mandated by the European Union. The new policy states that, *"it will be mandatory for all CFIA inspected facilities in Canada engaged in the slaughter of equines for edible purposes to have complete records for all animals (domestic and imported) presented for slaughter. These records will include unique identification for each animal, as well as a record of medical treatments administered to the animal for the six-month period preceding slaughter."*

It is the united opinion of the VEW that it is beyond the scope of our profession to comment on the culinary practices of any person or country; however, consumer safety of meat produced in our country is very much a responsibility that veterinarians must carefully consider.

Horses, unlike traditional food animals in the United States, are not raised or medicated during their lifetime with the intent of one day becoming human food. Because American horses are not "intended" for the human food chain, throughout their lives they will often have received medications that are banned by the FDA for use at any time during the life of food animals. [Click here for list of drugs prohibited for use in horses slaughtered for human consumption.](#)

Approved use of medications in food animals is specifically contingent upon observation of recommended withdrawal times. Withdrawal times have been experimentally determined in traditional food animals; however, withdrawal times for these drugs have not been established in horses. Thus, medications that are FDA approved for use in traditional food animals come with specific withdrawal schedules printed on the packaging, while the same medications, purchased for horses do not include the requisite withdrawal schedule, but simply state "NOT FOR USE IN HORSES INTENDED FOR FOOD".

Unlike the United States, European Union and United Kingdom member countries have a distinct safety policy with regard to horses entering the food chain. All EU/UK horses must carry "equine passports" in which the animal is declared to be either "eligible for slaughter as human food", or "not eligible for slaughter for human food".

Any EU or UK horse, which has ever received a medication that is banned for use in food producing animals, is forever prohibited from entering the food chain. All food animal approved medications that are prescribed and administered to horses in the EU or UK have strict withdrawal schedules printed on the packaging and all such medications must also be recorded on the equine passport. The EU/UK system is designed specifically to ensure the health and safety of humans that consume horsemeat. In contrast, even with the new CFIA policy American horses treated with medications that are absolutely prohibited by the EU will still be entering the food chain.

It is the strong position of VEW members that absent any formal regulation or structure by the United States with regard to medications and food safety withdrawal schedules for equines entering the food chain, horsemeat derived from any U.S. horse can never be regarded as safe for human consumption.

Furthermore, VEW member veterinarians strongly object to the AVMA and AAEP position in favor of horse slaughter for human consumption. For the AVMA and AAEP to condone the human consumption of meat derived from equines that have not been raised or medicated in a manner consistent with food safety regulations is, in our opinion, unethical, disingenuous, and dangerous.

[Click here to view the entire CFIA policy and list of drugs covered.](#) To read VEW's statement regarding our strong opposition to slaughtering horses for human consumption please visit www.vetsforequinewelfare.org.

REPORTABLE DISEASE IN
NEW HAMPSHIRE

African Horse Sickness
Anthrax
Aujeszky's Disease (Pseudorabies)
Avian Influenza
Bluetongue
Brucellosis
Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia
Contagious Equine Metritis
Chronic Wasting Disease
Cysticercosis
Encephalomyelitis (Equine or Avian)
Equine Viral Arteritis
Equine Infectious Anemia
Equine Virus Rhinopneumonitis
Foot and Mouth Disease
Hog Cholera (Classical Swine Fever)
Hydatidosis
Infectious Laryngotracheitis
Listeriosis
Lumpy Skin Disease
Mad Cow Disease
Mycoplasma Gallisepticum
Mycoplasma Synoviae
Newcastle Disease
Paratuberculosis (Johne's Disease)
Peste des petits ruminants
Piroplasmosis
Psittacosis or Ornithosis
Rabies
Rift Valley Fever
Rinderpest
Salmonella Enteritidis
Salmonella pullorum
Salmonella typhmuriium (DT-104)
Scrapie
Sheep Pox and Goat Pox
Tuberculosis
Vesicular Diseases
West Nile Virus

***Note: All Neurological Signs in Cattle
All reportable diseases must be reported
to the State Veterinarian immediately.**

NH Department of Agriculture, Markets &
Food
Division of Animal Industry
P.O. Box 2042
Concord, NH 03302-2042
Telephone Number: 603-271-2404

Revised 6/02

State Horse Slaughter Laws

Two states, CA and IL, prohibit the slaughter of horses for human consumption. Four states (CA, IL, OK, and TX) have laws prohibiting the sale of horsemeat for human consumption. Arizona prohibits state institutions from serving or buying horsemeat. Ohio prohibits the sale of only certain portions of the horse from use for human consumption.

Many states (including AZ, CA, DC, FL, GA, MA, MN, MS, OH, WI, WV) require labeling, posting of signs, consumer notification, and/or prohibitions of mixing with other meats.

STATE	STATUTE
Arizona § 3-2129	Horsemeat shall not be served in or sold to state institutions for human consumption.
* California Penal Code § 598c	It is unlawful for any person to possess, to import into or export from the state, or to sell, buy, give away, hold, or accept any horse with the intent of killing, or having another kill, that horse, if that person knows or should have known that any part of that horse will be used for human consumption.
§ 598d	Horsemeat may not be offered for sale for human consumption. No restaurant, cafe, or other public eating place may offer horsemeat for human consumption.
Illinois 225 ILCS § 635/1.5	Makes it illegal for any person to slaughter a horse if that person knows or should know that any of the horse meat will be used for human consumption. Also makes it illegal to import, export, sell, buy, give away, possess, hold or accept any horse meat for human consumption.
Ohio § 919.11	No person shall sell for human consumption the tongue, diaphragm, heart, esophagus, lips, ears, or glands of a horse, nor shall these parts of a horse be included in a horse meat food product intended for human consumption.
Oklahoma 63 Ok § 1-1136	It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, offer or exhibit for sale, or have in his possession with intent to sell, any quantity of horsemeat for human consumption.
63 Ok § 1- 1137	It shall be unlawful for any person to transfer the possession of any horsemeat to any other person when the person so transferring knows, or in the exercise of a reasonable discretion should have known, that the person receiving the horsemeat intends to sell it, offer it for sale, exhibit it for sale, or keep it in his possession with intent to sell it for human consumption.
Texas Agric. Code 149.002	A person commits an offense if the person: (1) sells, offers for sale, or exhibits for sale horsemeat as food for human consumption; or (2) possesses horsemeat with the intent to sell the horsemeat as food for human consumption.
149.003	A person commits an offense if the person: (1) transfers horsemeat to a person who intends to sell the horsemeat, offer or exhibit it for sale, or possess it for sale as food for human consumption; and (2) knows or in the exercise of reasonable discretion should know that the person receiving the horsemeat intends to sell the horsemeat, offer or exhibit it for sale, or possess it for sale as food for human consumption.

* Maryland art. 27 s. 212 prohibiting the sale of horsemeat for human consumption was repealed in 1968.

Forbes



Vickery Eckhoff, Contributor

LIFESTYLE | 1/10/2012 @ 11:57AM | 7,042 views

Texas Mayor Paula Bacon Kicks Some Horse Slaughter Tail

Every small-town mayor is bedeviled by something. For Paula Bacon of Kaufman, Texas, it was Dallas Crown, which slaughtered horses next door to her friend Mary Nash's 40-acre farm off Highway 175.

Dallas Crown was shuttered during Bacon's last term in office after a 20-year legal battle over environmental violations that constantly overwhelmed the city's wastewater plant with horse blood and discharge. But news that horse slaughter plants may be returning to the U.S in 2012 has Bacon speaking out about what one horse slaughter plant with 46 non-unionized employees can do to a small town of 6,700 hard-working people.



[Click for full photo gallery: Life In A Slaughter Town: Kaufman, Texas](#)

"You'd be better off with a lead smelter plant and sexually-oriented businesses," says the fifth-generation resident, citing environmental issues along with the stigma attached to horse slaughter.

Bacon, whose family owns P.G. Bacon Lumber Co., ("Friendly service since 1896"), offers a cautionary tale for any town thinking that horse slaughter will benefit their communities.

"Five million dollars in federal funding was spent annually to support three foreign-owned horse slaughter plants: Dallas Crown, Beltex in Fort Worth and Cavel in DeKalb, Illinois," claims Bacon. "When Dallas Crown's tax records came to light in the city's legal struggle, we found they'd paid only \$5 in federal taxes on a gross income of over \$12 million. They liked to say they were good corporate citizens. But it is my belief they were more like corporate thugs."

Life In A Slaughter Town

The twice-elected Bacon has plenty of gruesome stories to share, dating back to the '80's, when the Belgian-owned Dallas Crown put in a pump to force

horse blood through the city sewer system and burst the pipes. Within hours, horse blood backed up into residents' bathtubs and bubbled up through city streets.

Then there were the out-in-the-open offal piles, ever-present flies, vultures and stench lingering inside the Presbyterian hospital, daycare center, churches and, of course, people's homes. Yet despite a litany of gothic horrors in the community, Dallas Crown's violations and operations continued unabated until February, 2007. That's when the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals finally shut it down, citing a 1949 Texas law making horse slaughter illegal that had somehow been buried and forgotten.

The decision brought to an end the constant lawsuits, injunctions to cease and desist and legal bills. "During that time, legal expenses consumed 20% of the town's property tax revenue. That floored me," says Bacon, describing the day she pulled the city manager's records while he was out of the office and tallied up the bills.

Over one six-week period, Kaufman issued 29 citations for wastewater violations, each accompanied by a potential fine of \$2,000. Dallas Crown responded by requesting 29 separate jury trials, potentially causing yet another economic strain on the city's budget.

Kaufman could not afford to litigate in order to collect the fines, which went unpaid. "But things got a lot worse," says Bacon. During a 19-month period in 2004-2005, there were 481 violations, at which point Dallas Crown refused entry to Kaufman's engineers, preventing them from doing any environmental tests for nine months.

This kind of situation is, unfortunately, nothing new to residents of towns that slaughter cows, pigs, sheep and poultry, as Bacon's critics like to point out. These include lawmakers like former Montana Representative Ed Butcher, whose state is looking to profit from slaughtering horses for foreign markets, along with Sue Wallis, a state representative and pro-slaughter advocate from the small town of Recluse.

Do a Google search and you can find stories from not long ago about slaughterhouses pumping partially treated sewage (mostly blood, entrails and manure) into local waterways, as happened at Beltex and Cavel. These were also shut down when the USDA decided to stop funding inspections of horse slaughter plants five years ago.

Bacon's used to the slaughter industry's "two wrongs make a right" argument. "We dealt with people telling us to suck it up for 30 years. It just seemed like a necessary evil. We thought we were stuck with it."

"Quite Frankly, We Don't Want You Here."

This was the message delivered to Dallas Crown on Tuesday, January 21, 1986 by Mayor Harry Holcomb and the Kaufman City Council. Representatives of the plant, which had been around since the late '70's, went to the meeting, looking to get operations back online after a year-long shutdown following several months of bloody bathtubs and streets incidents.

"How would you like to have blood in front of your house and have the smell of manure and flies all around?" complained a resident at the meeting. Others worried about children getting sick.

A city waste water analyst told the council that if pre-treatment requirements were met, the conditions wouldn't be as bad as in the past. "The amount of

odor created by wastewater should be minimized," he said, "and they shouldn't be putting blood into the sewer because they can sell it. Every pint of blood they pour down the sewer is lost money. If they violate the wastewater ordinances of the city, they can be forced to come into compliance, or be closed."

Mayor Holcomb stated, "That plant has never made the city a dime and never will," then relented, believing the town could close Dallas Crown if it failed to comply with ordinances and regulations. And Dallas Crown quickly agreed to meet the city's requirements. "We want to be good members of the community," said Henry Serruys and Jack Kemp, representing the plant's foreign owners.

Other promises followed. "We don't go on the market to get 'good' horses. We get surplus horses—those that would be sent to the glue factory or others not fit for other use," said plant manager Serruys. Estimates of horses slaughtered per week: 300.

These would be killed "in a fraction of a second," Serruys claimed, with a captive-bolt device. He also promised that a "USDA inspector will be on site each day to ensure that the plant operates under government regulations and the plant will work under the guidance of the humane society."

"They lied, horses died," Bacon states. "Same as it is now."

Thicker Than Water: Dealing With Toxic Horse Blood

The waste water analyst at that critical, 1986 city council meeting omitted two key details that would prove disastrous for Kaufman over the next two decades. The first had to do with the quantities of horse blood that Dallas Crown would produce. The second was its marketability to fertilizer companies.

Quite simply, the companies didn't want it for the same reason that a major U.S. prepared-foods company later stopped fertilizing its mushrooms with horse manure: drugs in the horses' systems that were toxic to humans.

Pro-slaughter activists like to promote beef and horse meat as equally healthful, but statistics quickly reveal important differences in how cows and horses are raised and medicated that prove them wrong.

For example, 100% of cattle go to slaughter, typically, by age two. From pasture to plate, their feed and meds are regulated by the USDA. By contrast, no more than 1% of U.S. horses wind up in the slaughter pipeline in any given year. Of those, more than 90% are healthy, sound horses with no behavioral problems, according to a study done by Dr. Temple Grandin of Colorado State University. In another study, fewer than 4% of horses sold to slaughter were older than age 10.

Watching Through The Fence

Dallas Crown's promise to slaughter only broken-down nags turned out to be a farce, as Bacon and Mary Nash discovered by simply observing the pens from behind Nash's fence. "You could see everything from there," Bacon says. "I'd never seen such beautiful and healthy horses."

Even if the horses had been old and useless, their ages should have disqualified them as slaughter animals or at least raised a flag: No rancher keeps a meat animal beyond the age it takes to reach full weight. A horse past

that age would obviously have done something else prior to being sold to a kill buyer: breeding stock, racehorse, sport horse or working animal, for example.

But these kinds of equines get medicated with wormers, antibiotics, fly sprays, diuretics and Phenylbutazone, a pain killer once administered to people and now banned as a known human carcinogen by the USDA and FDA in slaughter-bound food animals. Racehorses have the highest exposure to "bute" due to their training and racing schedules, but regular sport and working horses are regularly administered the drug, too, according to owners.

As a result, the fertilizer companies rejected the horses' blood as too toxic for commercial use. And so, shortly after going online again in the springtime, Dallas Crown—and Kaufman's sewer system—was again awash in horse blood, a disaster compounded by another key detail that the waste water specialist should have known: 300 horses produce blood equivalent to 600 cows. Twice the amount of blood, more than twice the toxicity, for half the profit.

The blood, of course, stayed in Kaufman; the profits and meat went overseas.

Taking On The Good Ol' Boys

A former high school teacher, Paula Bacon ran for Mayor of Kaufman back in 2003 because, as she put it, "I was tired of the good ol' boys running everything." She unseated the incumbent mayor with 58% of the vote. The good ol' boys weren't pleased.

For one thing, she was only the second woman to be elected mayor in the town's 163-year history. For another, quite a few good ol' boys had economic relationships with Dallas Crown. Some worked in the office and the plant, others as kill buyers supplying live horses. Even Kaufman's city attorney rented office space to Dallas Crown's legal counsel. Their offices sat cozily across the hall from each other.

But while their relationships benefitted a handful of Kaufman residents, many more suffered.

Jualine and Robert Eldridge lived next door to the plant for more than 20 years. Like Mayor Bacon, they were vocal about the foul smells, sights, vermin and loud noises affecting their property, families and neighborhood.

"Sometimes, when they killed, they didn't move the [offal] container for a week. That's how long it took to fill it with guts," says Robert Eldridge. "The longer it sat, the more it stunk, the more flies and vermin it attracted."

"It was all about money for Dallas Crown," says Jualine Eldridge. "They wanted the plant, but not in their own backyards. Just like Beltex, which was in a low-income Hispanic neighborhood in Fort Worth. They didn't care about us."

Bacon also points out the effect that the environmental and humane aspects had on businesses looking to relocate to Kaufman. "I discovered that developers would look at the plant and say 'no thanks.' When asked why, they'd just say, 'Not a good fit.'"

Kaufman Today

Life in Kaufman is immeasurably better, now that Dallas Crown is shut down. The air is clear, the crime rate dropped steeply and real estate prices have

gone up. The town has also been attracting businesses that stayed away while it was known as "that place that slaughtered horses."

And the good ol' boys? They just went back to doing what they had always done. The kill buyers started hauling horses to the Mexican border for slaughter. The others stuck around and got involved in new businesses.

Today, quite a few people in the "horse industry" are hoping to overturn the 1949 law prohibiting horse slaughter in Texas that Bacon and the Fifth Circuit Court successfully invoked to close Dallas Crown.

You can change a town, apparently. But a good ol' boy? Bacon remains guarded on that one. It's why she keeps talking about her experience with Dallas Crown.

"People still don't understand how horrific horse slaughter is—and was, right here in Kaufman," she says. "I've got USDA pictures that prove it. But people don't want to see them. They're really hard to look at."

For more on Paula Bacon and Kaufman, Texas, see [*Life In A Slaughter Town*](#), a special photo gallery accompanying this article.

This is the seventh post in a series on Thoroughbreds, horse racing and the state of the horse industry. For more on this topic, visit [my personal blog](#), follow me on [Twitter](#) and on [Forbes.com](#) or read my other [Forbes.com](#) posts:

[Racing Industry Silent on Slaughtered Thoroughbreds](#)

[Saving Princess Madeline—A Racehorse's Tale](#)

[Horse Slaughterhouse Investigation Sounds Food Safety and Cruelty Alarms](#)

[How Many Congressmen Does It Take To Screw A Horse?](#)

[Who's Who in Capitol Hill's Horse Meat Power Posse \(photo gallery\)](#)

[Can War Horse Beat Clooney For Golden Globe?](#)

This article is available online at:
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/vickeryeckhoff/2012/01/10/texas-mayor-paula-bacon-kicks-some-tail/>

January 19, 2012

The Committee of Environment and Agriculture VIA FAX 603-271-6689
New Hampshire State House
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: HB 1446 – Relative to the Meat Inspection Act

Dear Honorable Law Makers of New Hampshire:

I write to urge Committee members to neither approve, allow, or otherwise support horse slaughter and its associated transport.

Why prohibit horse slaughter for human consumption? While there are many reasons to enact a prohibition, I ask you to consider the following:

1. horses suffer severe injuries and often die in transit due to ineffective federal regulations.
2. there is not, and will never be, a government agency which can humanely manage horse slaughter for human consumption via bulk transport.
3. *USDA is the federal regulatory agency which has authority for horse slaughter and related bulk transport and bulk holding, and their failures are well-documented. (Consider the government record photos and listed violations at a Texas horse slaughter plant: <http://www.kaufmanzoning.net/>)*

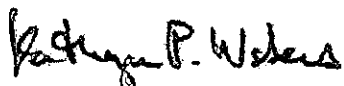
My husband and I have very much enjoyed the vacations that we've spent in the Tuftonboro, NH area and look forward to retiring in the region. We've found residents there to be pleasant and caring and being cold-weather enthusiasts, it is a prime retirement target for us.

While we have found our values to be similar to those also important to Tuftonboro-area residents, it is inconceivable that those we know in New Hampshire would support a state effort allowing commercial horse slaughter. That's just unimaginable. My professional experiences working with horses in the racing industry demand that I express myself on this matter. Slaughter is an exceptionally brutal, horrific and wholly unjustified horror to place on horses.

As a state which might take a leadership position on the issue of horse slaughter for human consumption, I sincerely hope that the New Hampshire legislature takes clear action to oppose it.

Thank you for considering this letter.

Most respectfully,



Kathryn P. Webers 43 Medford St., Marshfield, MA 02050 781-834-0527

Rep. Steve P.

Dr. Crawford 1/2
response to
"Trash points"

To: House Environmental and Agriculture Subcommittee

From: Patricia Morris (FRISH)

Date: January 26, 2012

Re: HB 1446: amendment to meat inspection act

This memo is my attempt to answer some of the questions asked at the Public Hearing on January 19, 2012 concerning equine slaughter and expand on why horse slaughter differs from other livestock slaughter. I have provided citations to the state laws or formal studies that support the statements listed below (to avoid "inflammatory" remarks or opinions).

NH has specific statutes concerning the treatment of horses and the importation of horses into our state. These statutes are not common to other states, making NH different. These laws, specifically the treatment of horses under RSA 435 are applicable to all horses in NH, including those bound for slaughter.

I. Treatment of Horses

Proper Care (435:12) – no person shall torture, beat, mutilate or abandoned any horse or aid in such abuse or permit any horse in her/her care to be subject to abuse of any kind.

Proper Feeding (435:13) – receive roughage in proportion to size/age, grain may be required, fed on regular daily schedule, all food shall be clean/free from excessive moisture. Sufficient quantity of fresh water required.

Shelter Available (435:14) – Must have either (1) adequately vented, dry barn with stalls of sufficient size so the horse can lie down, provided adequate and suitable exercise in arenas or paddocks or (2) roofed shelter, 3 sided from 11/1 – 4/15 for horses kept in pastures/paddocks. Shelter must be minimum of 100 sq feet per horse over 750 pounds and 50 sq feet for those under 750 pounds.

NH Agr 3700 rules provide details as to these statutes.

II. Importing Horses into NH.

NH RSA 436:95 – shall be accompanied by an official interstate health certificate, which must certify the horse has been officially tested and found to be negative to EIA (Coggins test) in a 6 month period prior to importation. The test and certificate must be signed by an accredited veterinarian. There must be one certificate for each horse which must list: the owner, owner's address, trainer or responsible person for the horse, name and registration number of the horse, age, sex, color and identifying marks and a full description of the horse. The health certificate must be within 30 days of importation (Agr 2103.04(c)).

Summary: Coggins test (must be sent to lab and takes 5-10 days) 6 month prior to import, health certificate 30 days.

Agr 2100 rules (pursuant to Chapter 436) do not contemplate specific import to slaughter requirements for equines like they do for other livestock.

It was interesting to note that the HSUS representative tried to make the case that it was a bad thing that 92+% of the horses formerly slaughtered in the US for human consumption were in good condition with no health problems. All meat food safety programs strive for healthy animals as the source of their product.

Vaccination and the use of prescription medications / dewormers are normal practices in most livestock industries – even those where animals will end up in the food chain – in order to assure a healthy animal arrives at slaughter.

Considering that stomach ulcers are generally considered to be stress induced / related, and that the rates of ulcers in eventing and sport horses are very high, couldn't it be argued that there is a significant welfare concern with all of these activities?

As it would in any livestock that eventually ends up in the human food chain – on-farm records should be kept to verify. Record keeping is inconsistent from farm to farm. Vaccinations probably pose a small risk to food safety compared to other things.

C-sections are not uncommon in beef cattle (and other species often used for meat). These are often performed under local anesthesia and general sedation – mothers and calves all eventually end up in the food chain. Again, there would probably be some record-keeping requirement.

This section is very misleading. Though they are public health risks, EEE and WNV are not considered to be transmissible to mosquitoes from horses. This section seems to infer otherwise – "communicable to humans, as well as other horses." These diseases are transmissible from birds via mosquito bite to humans and horses, but not from horses to other animals, either by mosquito bite or other route.

No greater risk of traffic accident whether it is horses or other livestock on the trailer.

If a horse is found to have a disease or its health certificate is not satisfactory, horse must be quarantined (or can be returned to owner). Thus every slaughter facility would need to have a quarantine area, separate from the slaughter facilities.

Horses imported for slaughter are permitted to import under 436:95(II) after a special permit from the state veterinarian is issued.

III. Importing: Human Health and Safety.

Adulterated Meat Products: Unlike other livestock such as pigs and cows, horses are never raised for meat, at least not currently in the U.S. They are bred for farming, recreation, racing, eventing, endurance, and showing, among other things. Thus, their treatment over their lives includes prescription medications and vaccines, including routine worming for parasites.

EU- UK- any horse which has ever received a medication that is banned for use in food producing animals, is forever prohibited from entering the food chain. That list is attached.

"Bute". Phenylbutazone is a known carcinogen, prohibited in food sources by the USDA and FDA. A blood test may identify "bute" was administered to a horse in the recent couple days (estimated at 3) but there is no blood test to determine whether a horse has ever been given bute. Can be given via a cream (surpass).

Gastrogard for ulcers. Very common in eventing and sport horses.

Vaccinations- at least 21 days from slaughter date (how will that be tracked?)

Tranquilizers: (acepromazine, xylazine) – sedate a horse from loading on a trailer, to vet uses such as to administer dental or sheath cle, surgery, IA shots...

Wormers such as ivermectin and pyrantel.

Communicable diseases: Horses are common carriers of both EEE and WNV. We have had outbreaks of both diseases in horses in N.H. within the past 5 years. Human health is at risk from EEE and EMV. These diseases are communicable to humans, as well as to other horses. There are equine vaccinations for these diseases, however vaccinations are not required to import into N.H. NH RSA 436:95.

Transportation – Annual headlines detail tractor trailer accidents, the trucks transporting 30+ horses to slaughterhouses. (Oklahoma 30 horses overturned, 11 died, people stopped on Turnpike to help the loose and injured horses, Tennessee on I-40, 38 horses on board, 3 died, blocked the highway and rerouted traffic for hours and 100 people stopped cars to help) That was in normal driving conditions. NH has ice, snow, hydroplaning... Increasing the chance of such accidents on our state highways.

IV. Municipalities

Horses are considered agricultural per statute (NH RSA 21:34-a). Indisputably, a commercial equine slaughterhouse would have to be located in a commercially zoned area of a town, not an agricultural zoned area of town.

Many towns, especially those more urban, have regulations on horse possession. For example, Hollis requires 2 acres of land per horse. Salem requires a 5 acre minimum to have any horses. It is my understanding many towns have these types of restrictions on horse ownership. That could require equine slaughterhouses to lease/rent/buy massive plots of land.

Many towns also have ordinances on carcass burial, mainly due to ground water issues. Since equine carcass and blood have no known secondary uses (such as leather, stipe, etc), what would be done with them? Bury on site if permitted? Local transfer station if permitted? Who will monitor this? The mayor of the Tx town that once housed an equine slaughter facility is very vocal about the stink, flies, predators that arose from carcasses sitting in summer heat waiting for burial or removal.

The state has a Best Manure Practice law, enforced by DAMF, to ensure horse manure is properly disposed of and/or removed from the site. Who will monitor this?

V. Animal Cruelty Laws

Cruelty laws (644:8(III)) hold a person guilty of a misdemeanor for first offense, felony for second offense, if a horse is negligently deprived of necessary care, sustenance or shelter. Upon first offense, by order of licensed veterinarian, can be seized and if confined, the animals may be disposed of by the court. How would this work in a slaughter type environment? NH does not have the resources to manage a large number of horses- currently our equine community through private individuals and several non profits, work together and successfully manage our "unwanted" horse population (from bankruptcies to cruelty seizures). Futhermore, NH towns do not have the resources to pay the care costs (\$20/day/horse) to hold horses during trial, which can be upwards of a year. See Candia seizure of \$15k (6 weeks at NH SPCA), Winchester of \$10k (unsure of duration).

VI. NH equine community.

In 2009- 2010, the Miami killing fields - "backyard mutilations". Articles Attached. Black market for meat exists, add in this economy, and its quick way to make some serious money. Assuming a slaughter horse is bought for \$1000 and horse meat is between \$7-\$40/pound, 500 pounds is a huge profit, minimum \$3400 profit. What about two draft horses stolen from a working farm? That could bring in over \$10,000 in profit.

The threat of the mutilation and theft among our horses would change the atmosphere and livelihood of many equestrians.

Seems unlikely that the animal would be seized and held in such a case. More likely, charges would be brought based on eyewitness or videotape accounts.

First, it is interesting to note the frequent claims by some that there is no market for the meat in the US, so there should be no need to provide slaughter services. Yet these are recent examples of the high value market in the US. So certainly, there could be a profit motive. But the \$3400 profit does not include any cost other than purchase of the horse - cost of slaughter, butchering, packaging, transport, selling. And the purchase cost would likely be somewhat higher - I believe there is research showing that the baseline market value of an average horse was higher when the 2 midwest slaughter houses were open.

January 15, 2012

The Committee on HB 1446
The House Environment & Agriculture Committee
Chairman Robert Haefner
Attn: Laurie Harding

Dear Representatives:

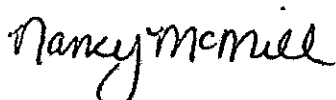
I am writing to urge you to support HB 1446, the removal of equines from HB339 the meat inspection bill. There are several reasons I am opposed to the inclusion of equines. They include social issues such as increased crime rates, decreased property values and increased pollution that come along with the horse slaughter industry. However, first and foremost is concern for the food service industry and its customers. I am a 27 year veteran of the commercial food service industry. I am serve safe certified and teach HACCP classes to our newly hired employees. I am responsible for verifying the HACCP program at my facility. Quite frankly when I saw equines included on the local meat bill, I was horrified.

You may or may not be aware, but one of the top causes of food borne illness is purchasing from unsafe/uncertified sources. Commercial food service is considerably different than cooking for oneself at home. We get a variety of patrons including the young, the old, pregnant women and people with compromised immune systems. All of these people are highly susceptible to the chemical, biological hazards found in food. If we allow anything to happen to our patrons and they become ill, it is bad for all of us. It is bad for our customers who could even die. It is bad for our reputations, it is bad for our employees and it is bad for sales. Sometimes it even closes the doors to our facilities. After all, who can forget the ecoli outbreak that almost destroyed Jack in the Box in the 1990s. Allowing horses to be introduced into our farmers markets, restaurants, school systems and grocery stores is a recipe for disaster. Our food chain is not a dumping ground for unwanted horses.

Certain animals are raised to be food animals. The USDA and FDA agree on their classification. However horses are classified as a companion animal by the FDA. This classification means that any drugs may be given to the horses with no withdrawal studies. If you look at virtually every package of horse related supplements/fly sprays/wormers/vaccines etc. you will see the warning "not for use in horses intended for human consumption". We also often frequently give our horses an anti-inflammatory called "bute" that was pulled from the market in humans decades ago. The unwanted consequence of this drug in some humans (especially the vulnerable groups above) was ultimately death. While the state vet and agriculture people may tell you that there needs to be an outlet for unwanted horses or the old and sick ones, let me tell you our food supply is NOT it. Others may tell you that it is their right to do what they want with their property. However their rights end when their actions (such as selling a horse that has an unknown history or that has been given any sort of medications etc) endanger the consumer. It is a matter of public welfare, not property rights.

Please support HB1446 and keep the equines out of New Hampshire's commercial food supply.

Sincerely,



Nancy Mcmillan
Jaffrey, NH

January 13, 2012

The Committee on HB 1446

The House Environment & Agriculture Committee

Chairman Robert Haefner

Attn: Laurie Harding

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am asking that you support HB 1446, the removal of horses, donkey's, mules, and any related equine, from the meat inspection bill (HB 339). Equines should not be part of our food chain. As a horse owner, I know the supplements and medications horses receive. Almost all of them have a warning on the label, "Do not administer to horses intended for human consumption". These warnings are put there for a reason. Because horses are not raised as food animals, there are no regulations as to the use of these drugs, fly sprays, wormers, linaments, etc. that are used on horses on a daily basis. By passing HB 339 the door has been opened to unsafe meat entering the food chain, along with a lot of ripple effect consequences. Anyone can buy a horse, say they have owned it for 20 years and never gave it any medications, take it to a slaughterhouse and sell the meat to unsuspecting people at local Farmer's Markets or Restaurants, putting everyone's health at risk.

I am also very concerned for the safety of my horse. Someone could come and steal him right out of his pasture when I am at work. By the time I get home, he could already be butchered and headed for someone's dinner table. This is very frightening. I don't think my town would like to have to hire more police officers to protect everyone's horses 24/7.

I am also the mother of 4 school aged children. I really don't want to have to worry about them eating uninspected, unregulated, and unsafe food.

Horses are companion animals and have no place in the food chain. Please support HB 1446.

Respectfully,

Staci L. Pratt

January 15, 2012

The Committee on HB 1446
The House Environment & Agriculture Committee
Chairman Robert Haefner
Attn: Laurie Harding

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am requesting that you to support HB 1446, the removal of equines from the meat inspection bill (HB339) that passed last session. There are many reasons that horses do not belong in HB339. There are many things that the slaughter of horses brings to a community. None of them are good. Please take a few minutes to read "When Horse Slaughter Comes to Town". Some of the highlights that having a horse slaughter plant in town included increased crime rates, frequent violations of city ordinances, undocumented workers, pollution and decreased property values. I fail to see how any of these unintended consequences of horse slaughter can be beneficial to my town or our state. There is also a food safety piece that concerns me as well.

My husband and I own a boarding facility. I have been around horses for almost 65 years. I have seen a lot of things during that time. The claim has been made that horse slaughter is necessary to take care of unwanted, old and sick horses. It is not true. Our food supply is not and should never be a dumping ground for old, sick, or unwanted horses. It should also not be a dumping ground for horses with unknown histories. What is truly a concern to me is that each and every day I give my horses things that are marked "not for horses intended for human consumption" I also vaccinate regularly and use things with warnings such as "may cause miscarriages in humans" "wear double gloves when administering" and "do not use if you are pregnant or may be pregnant". Have you ever heard the phrase "you are what you eat"? It works for animals too. We give them drugs, then we turn around and eat them. Other livestock and poultry are given guidelines by the FDA on what they can or cannot be given to keep the public safe. Because the FDA classifies horses as companion animals, there are no such regulations for horses. There are no studies that have been done on withdrawal times for any of the wormers, supplements, fly sprays, medicines, vaccines or ointments we give our horses. Compound this with the fact that anyone can pick up a horse off of Craig's list or classified ad, claim to know its history and sell it for meat. Horses can also be stolen and taken directly to the slaughterhouse. Now with the passage of HB339 the meat from those horses can show up in any eatery or farmers market. There are no known withdrawal times because there have been no studies. There is no accountability. As a taxpayer, I do want my tax dollars spent on real issues, not settling lawsuits because of an irresponsible law that does not properly manage our food. This is not a property issue; it is a public welfare issue. Unregulated horses (or meat of any type) with an unknown history have no business being in our commercial food supply. People can still do what they want in their own homes. However, I have to use due diligence when running my business. I expect that as lawmakers you will do the same.

Please support HB1446 and keep horses out of New Hampshire's commercial food supply.

Sincerely,

Sandi Gladding MacPherson

Sandi Gladding MacPherson
Timber Trails Equine Center

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twelve

AN ACT prohibiting the slaughter of horses for human consumption and the sale and possession of horsemeat for human consumption.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Purpose. The purpose of this section is to prohibit the slaughter of horses for human consumption and the sale and possession of horsemeat for human consumption.

2 New Section; Human Consumption of Horsemeat. Amend RSA 427 by inserting the following new section:

427: x Human Consumption of Horsemeat

I. Definitions. In this section:

“Horsemeat” means the flesh of an animal of the genus equus.

II. Prohibitions.

No person, firm, or corporation shall:

- (a) slaughter a horse if that person knows or should know that any of the horsemeat will be used for human consumption.
- (b) sell, offer for sale, exhibit for sale, or possess with the intent to sell horsemeat as food for human consumption.
- (c) knowingly transport a horse for purpose of slaughter for human consumption.
- (d) knowingly transport horsemeat for use as food for human consumption.

III. Enforcement. Any person who violates any provision of this subdivision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to exceed 180 days or by both such fine and imprisonment.

IV. Severability. If any provision of this act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid or unconstitutional, that invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Draft Amendment

HB 1446 – AS INTRODUCED

2012 SESSION

12-2263

08/05

HOUSE BILL 1446

AN ACT relative to the meat inspection program.

SPONSORS: Rep. Harding, Graf 11; Rep. Haefner, Hills 27; Rep. Sad, Ches 2; Sen. Luther, Dist 12

COMMITTEE: Environment and Agriculture

ANALYSIS

This bill excepts equines from inspection, processing, and sale as meat.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in bold italics.

Matter removed from current law appears ~~{in brackets and struckthrough.}~~

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

12-2263

08/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twelve

AN ACT relative to the meat inspection program.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Meat Food Product; Definition. Amend RSA ~~472:2427:2~~, IV to read as follows:

IV. "Meat food product" means any product capable of use as human food which is made wholly or in part from any meat or other portion of the carcass of any cattle, sheep, swine, or goats, excepting products which contain meat or other portions of such carcasses only in a relatively small portion or historically have not been considered by consumers as products of the meat food industry, and which

are exempted from definition as a meat food product by the commissioner under such conditions as the commissioner may prescribe to assure that the meat or other portions of such carcasses contained in such product are not adulterated and that such products are not represented as meat food products. ~~[This term as applied to food products of equines shall have a meaning comparable to that provided in this paragraph with respect to cattle, sheep, swine, and goats.]~~

2 Meat Inspector; Definition. Amend RSA ~~472:2427:2~~, XIX to read as follows:

XIX. "Meat inspector" means a person who examines and inspects all livestock, *excepting equines*, and all carcasses and parts thereof, and all meat and meat food products thereof, and the sanitary conditions of all establishments in which such meat and meat food products are prepared.

3 Establishment; Slaughter; Definitions. Amend RSA ~~472:2427:2~~, XXI-XXII to read as follows:

XXI. "Establishment" means a facility in which livestock, *excepting equines*, or poultry are slaughtered and packed or a facility in which meat food products are processed.

XXII. "Slaughter" means the act of killing livestock, *excepting equines*, for human consumption.

4 Horsemeat; Definitions. Amend RSA 427:2 by inserting after paragraph XXIV the following new paragraph:

XXV. "Horsemeat" means the flesh of an animal of the genus equus.

4-5 Inspections; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA ~~472427:3-a~~, I(a) to read as follows:

(a) Procedures used in ante mortem and postmortem inspections, quarantine, segregation, and reinspections with respect to the slaughter of livestock, *excepting equines*, and the preparation of meat food products at all establishments in this state, including procedures for obtaining access to establishments under RSA 427:6.

5-6 Rulemaking; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:3-a, II(d) to read as follows:

(d) Conditions under which carcasses, part of carcasses, meat, and meat food products of livestock, *excepting equines*, capable of use as human food, shall be stored or otherwise handled by any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of buying, selling, freezing, storing, or transporting such articles in or for commerce. Such rules may be adopted whenever the commissioner deems such action necessary to assure that such articles will not be adulterated or misbranded when delivered to the consumer.

6-7 Examinations and Inspections; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:4, I-II to read as follows:

I. An examination and inspection of all livestock, *excepting equines*, before they shall be allowed to enter into any slaughtering establishment in this state in which slaughtering and preparation of meat and meat food products of such animals are conducted solely for commerce:

(a) All livestock, excepting equines, show symptoms of disease shall be set apart and slaughtered separately from all other livestock; and

(b) When so slaughtered, the carcasses of said livestock, *excepting equines*, shall be subject to a careful examination and inspection, all as provided by the rules adopted by the commissioner pursuant to RSA 541-A.

II. A postmortem examination and inspection of the carcasses and parts thereof of all livestock capable of use as human food, *excepting equines*, to be prepared at any slaughtering, establishment in this state in which such articles are prepared solely for intrastate commerce, and interstate commerce when authorized. After the examination:

(a) The carcasses and parts thereof of all such animals found to be not adulterated shall be marked, stamped, tagged, or labeled, as "New Hampshire Inspected and Passed" and all carcasses and parts thereof of animals found to be adulterated shall be marked, stamped, tagged, or labeled as "New Hampshire Inspected and Condemned";

(b) All carcasses and parts thereof thus inspected and condemned shall be destroyed for food purposes by the establishment in the presence of an inspector;

(c) Said inspectors, after the first inspection, shall, when they deem it necessary, reinspect the carcasses or parts thereof to determine whether, since the first inspection, the same have become adulterated. If any carcass or any part thereof shall, upon examination and inspection subsequent to the first examination and inspection, be found to be adulterated, it shall be destroyed for food purposes by the establishment in the presence of an inspector; and

(d) The commissioner may remove inspectors from any establishment which fails to destroy any such condemned carcass or part thereof when the requirements of either subparagraph II(b) or (c) have not been observed.

7-8 Carcasses; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:5, I to read as follows:

I. The provisions of RSA 427:4 shall apply to all carcasses or parts of carcasses of livestock or the meat or meat products thereof, capable of use as human food, which may be brought into any slaughtering establishment, where inspection under this subdivision is maintained. The provisions of RSA 427:4 may be voluntarily applied to those species that are capable of use as human food though not included in the definition of livestock in this subdivision. An animal owner may elect to adhere to these provisions with the concurrence of the commissioner. Once such animals have entered an inspected establishment, they shall adhere to the same standards and requirements as all livestock in the establishment, *excepting equines*.

8-9 Certified Meat Inspectors; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:8, I to read as follows:

I. Certified meat inspectors shall inspect all slaughtering establishments in which livestock, *excepting equines*, are slaughtered and the meat and meat food products thereof are prepared solely for commerce as may be necessary to inform the inspector concerning the sanitary conditions of them.

9-10 Times of Inspection; Equines Excepted. Amend RSA 427:9 to read as follows:

427:9 Times of Examination and Inspection. A certified meat inspector shall be present in all establishments at any time during which livestock, *excepting equines*, are slaughtered for the purposes of commerce, except exempted slaughter of certain poultry under RSA 427:16.

~~10-11~~ Commercial Control; Equines Excepted. Amend the introductory paragraph RSA 427:10 to read as follows:

427:10 Commercial Control. No person, firm, or corporation shall, with respect to livestock, *excepting equines* or any carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat or meat food products of any such animals:

11-12 New Paragraph; Prohibition on Slaughter of Equines for Food Products. Amend RSA 427:10 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

V. No person, firm, or corporation shall cause equines as defined in RSA 436:93, III to be slaughtered or prepared at an establishment for the purpose of preparing meat food products. No meat inspector or certified meat inspector under this subdivision shall inspect and approve any equine for slaughter or preparation as meat food products.

13 New Paragraph; Prohibition on Sale or Possession of Horsemeat. Amend RSA 427:10 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraph:

VI. No person, firm, or corporation shall:

- (a) Slaughter a horse if that person knows or should know that any of the horsemeat will be used for human consumption.
- (b) Sell, offer for sale, exhibit for sale, or possess with the intent to sell horsemeat as food for human consumption.
- (c) Knowingly transport a horse for purpose of slaughter for human consumption.
- (d) Knowingly transport horsemeat for use as food for human consumption.

12-14 Records; *Equines Excepted*. Amend RSA 427:19, I-II to read as follows:

I. The following records shall be made available for review by an authorized designee of the commissioner:

- (a) The numbers and kinds of livestock, *excepting equines*, slaughtered[;].
- (b) Quantities and types of products prepared[;].

(c) Names and addresses of the owners of the livestock, *excepting equines*{s}.

(d) Bills of sale, invoices, bills of lading, receiving and shipping papers which all include the following: description of livestock or article, *excepting equines*, net weight of livestock or article, *excepting equines*, name and address of buyer and seller of livestock or article, *excepting equines*, name, and address of consigner or recipient if other than the buyer, method of shipment, date of shipment, name and address of carrier{s}.

(e) Shipper's certificates required by other statutes and rules{s}.

(f) Record of seal numbers of inedible products{s}.

II. The following classes of persons, firms, and corporations shall permit access to the records upon presentation of official credentials during ordinary business hours:

(a) Any persons, firms, or corporations that engage, for commerce in the business of slaughtering and livestock, *excepting equines*, or preparing, freezing, packaging, or labeling any carcasses, or parts or products of carcasses, of any such animals.

(b) Any persons, firms, or corporations, that engage in the business of buying or selling as meat brokers, wholesalers, or otherwise, or transporting, in commerce or storing in or for such commerce, any carcasses, or parts or products of carcasses, of any such animals.

(c) Any persons, firms, or corporations that engage in business, in or for commerce as renderers, or engage in the business of buying, selling, or transporting, in such commerce, any dead, dying, disabled, or diseased livestock, *excepting equines*, or parts of the carcasses of any such animals that died otherwise than by slaughter.

13-15 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1446

BILL TITLE: relative to the meat inspection program.

DATE: February 14, 2012

LOB ROOM: 303

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Groen

Seconded by Rep. Mecheski

Vote: 13-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: YES

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Steve Palmer, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1446

BILL TITLE: relative to the meat inspection program.

DATE: 2/14/12

LOB ROOM: 303

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. GREEN

Seconded by Rep. MECHESKI

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: 13-0

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Steve Palmer, Clerk



Committee Report

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 15, 2012

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on ENVIRONMENT AND
AGRICULTURE to which was referred HB1446,

AN ACT relative to the meat inspection program.

Having considered the same, report the same with the
following Resolution: **RESOLVED**, That it is
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Warren J Groen

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE
Bill Number:	HB1446
Title:	relative to the meat inspection program.
Date:	February 15, 2012
Consent Calendar:	YES
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The committee thinks this bill is unnecessary for the following reasons. If we exempt equine as livestock for this reason, than are there other ways that livestock will be exempted. The fact that horses can be pets and companion animals doesn't change their classification as livestock. This bill wouldn't help the cause of those who don't like concept of horse slaughter, this bill jeopardizes the concept of private property and the owners desire and right to dispose of their assets as they see fit. Finally, it does muddy the waters of the whole meat inspection program. For these reasons we slaughtered this bill.

Vote 13-0.

Rep. Warren J Groen
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB1446, relative to the meat inspection program. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Warren J Groen for ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE. The committee thinks this bill is unnecessary for the following reasons. If we exempt equine as livestock for this reason, than are there other ways that livestock will be exempted. The fact that horses can be pets and companion animals doesn't change their classification as livestock. This bill wouldn't help the cause of those who don't like concept of horse slaughter, this bill jeopardizes the concept of private property and the owners desire and right to dispose of their assets as they see fit. Finally, it does muddy the waters of the whole meat inspection program. For these reasons we slaughtered this bill. **Vote 13-0.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

HB 1446

ITL

The committee thinks this bill is unnecessary for the following reasons. If we exempt equine as livestock for this reason, than are there other ways that livestock will be exempted. The fact that horses can be pets and companion animals doesn't change their classification as livestock. This bill wouldn't help the cause of those who don't like concept of horse slaughter, this bill jeopardizes the concept of private property and the owners desire and right to dispose of their assets as they see fit. Finally, it does muddy the waters of the whole meat inspection program. For these reasons we slaughtered this bill.

Warren Groen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren Groen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

BLURB - MEAT INSP HB 1406

THE COMMITTEE THINKS THIS BILL IS UNNECESSARY FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS.

IF WE EXEMPT EQUINE AS LIVESTOCK FOR THIS REASON, ^{THAT} ARE THERE OTHER WAYS THAT LIVESTOCK WILL BE EXEMPTED. THE FACT THAT HORSES CAN BE PETS AND COMPANION ANIMALS DOESN'T CHANGE THEIR CLASSIFICATION AS LIVESTOCK. THIS BILL WOULDN'T HELP THE CAUSE OF THOSE WHO DON'T LIKE HORSE SLAUGHTER, ^{CONCEPT OF} ~~THE~~ INSERT #1 FINALLY IT DOES MUDDY THE WATERS OF THE WHOLE MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM. FOR THESE REASONS WE SLAUGHTERED THIS BILL.

#1 THIS BILL JEOPARDIZES THE CONCEPT OF PRIVATE PROPERTY AND THE OWNERS' DESIRE AND RIGHT TO DISPOSE OF THEIR ASSETS AS THEY SEE FIT.