



America 's Horses are off the Menu!!!

September 20, 2005

The American Defense Fund (AHDF) is delighted to announce that on Tuesday, September 20th, the Ensign-Byrd amendment to the Agricultural Appropriations bill was passed by the Senate in a landslide vote of 68-29!!!

Because of this victory, America 's horses will effectively be protected for one year from being killed in three horse slaughterhouses in the U.S.– two in Texas and one in Illinois – and from being shipped live to slaughterhouses in Canada or Mexico to die and their meat exported to foreign countries for human consumption. The Ensign-Byrd amendment had bipartisan support and is identical to a measure that passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 269-158 in the U.S. House of Representatives back in June.

Thank You!

Thank you to all of our members and supporters for your phone calls, letters and faxes to Congress regarding this important issue. Your efforts and dedication have made all the difference for America 's horses! Please take a moment to thank your legislators if they voted in favor of the Ensign-Byrd amendment. Letters to local newspapers are also in order to recognize those in Congress who made this victory possible with their vote.

AHDF has worked tirelessly to push for legislation to stop horse slaughter in the U.S. and has been at the forefront of educating members of the American public and legislators on the many existing alternatives to slaughter. Among AHDF's efforts has been the publication of *Alternatives to Auction and Slaughter: A Guide for Equine Owners*, a book which is the first of its kind resource dedicated solely to listing and promoting the many viable, humane alternatives to horse slaughter. This publication will assist in setting up a new infrastructure that will support humane treatment and kinder fates for our nation's horses, ponies and burros.

End Horse Slaughter Once and For All!

Although passage of the Ensign-Byrd amendment is a huge victory for American horses, our work is not over. A vote on The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act which would place a permanent ban on the butchering of American horses is expected to take place this year. Please let your legislators know that you want horses off the menu once and for all! Urge your U.S. Representative to cosponsor H.R. 503, The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act and your two U.S. Senators to cosponsor the Ensign/Landrieu bill (companion to H.R. 503).

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