



Horse Welfare Alliance Canada

Cambrian PO Box 75028, Calgary, AB T2K 6J8

07 Apr 2009

The Honourable Michael Wilson
Canadian Ambassador to the
United States of America
Embassy of Canada
501 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 2001
USA

House Judiciary Committee
B351 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
USA

Attention: Caroline Lynch

Re: Bill S. 727 IS and HR503

The Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada (HWAC) is an alliance of provincial equine organizations and farm animal care groups whose purpose is the dissemination of correct information related to the Canadian horse industry to horse owners and the general public. The partners of HWAC include the ten Provincial Horse Associations (Councils, Federations and Associations), the four Provincial Farm Animal Care Organizations in Canada, representation from SPCA and various industry organizations, including other livestock species, and corporations. Collectively HWAC represents in excess of 150,000 Canadian horse people.

This correspondence was originated and authorized by a teleconference meeting of HWAC partners 07 Apr 2009.

This is to submit that the Bill as proposed to amend Title 18 and prohibit certain conduct related to the use of horses for human consumption which, as proposed, will restrict shipment, delivery and transport, affecting interstate commerce or foreign commerce, is objectively contemptuous and without respect for the North American Free Trade Act.

All are aware of the resultant inhumane treatment of horses since the closing of three processing plants in the United States. That action was obviously based on the emotions of a few, notwithstanding 16% of the world's population consumes horse meat and discriminating horse owners would rather professional euthanasia than horses left to suffer in unusual or cruel environment and habitat.

It is hereby respectfully requested that the Legislators of the United States of America further consult the horse industry with respect to improving regulations and humane care and handling without curtailing and/or interfering with animal agriculture.

Yours truly,

Wm. H. L. (Bill) desBarres
Chair Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada

c.c. The Honourable Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
The Honourable Peter Van Loan, Minister of Public Safety
Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada Partners

...because we care about horse welfare across Canada...
www.horsewelfare.ca

