



## **NATIONAL THOROUGHBRED RACING ASSOCIATION JOINS BATTLE TO END HORSE SLAUGHTER**

### **NATIONAL HORSE PROTECTION COALITION COMMENDS NTRA FOR ITS LEADERSHIP**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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(Washington, DC) – In a strong indication that legislation to end the slaughter of horses in this country is gaining widespread support within the horse industry, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) has endorsed the legislation. NTRA has also committed its efforts to protecting the welfare of America's horses.

“From the very beginning of our efforts to ban horse slaughter the NTRA has been supportive and committed to the cause,” says two time Kentucky Derby winning trainer and National Horse Protection Coalition spokesman, Nick Zito. “Their official endorsement of the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act is a significant step towards ending a dark cloud over the industry and all horse lovers.”

Last year alone over 42,000 horses were slaughtered in the United State for human consumption abroad as a delicacy in one of the two remaining horse slaughterhouses located in Texas. The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (HR 857), introduced in the US Congress by Congressman John Sweeney (R-NY) and Congressman John Spratt (D-SC) will ban horse slaughter in the US while ensuring horses aren't exported for the same purpose. Over 150 Members of Congress have already joined in support of this important bill.

The NTRA is the latest in a growing list of prominent horse industry organizations stating their support of the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act. This sends a strong message to Congress that this bill is important, widely supported and the right thing to do,” said Zito. “I strongly urge anyone who cares about horses to contact their Member of Congress and ask them to support the legislation.”

Other groups supporting the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act include Churchill Downs Inc., Fasig-Tipton Co. Inc., New York Racing Association, New Jersey Racing Commission, Utah Quarter Horse Association and Hanover Shoe Farm. The bill is also widely supported by veterinarians, equine rescues, humane organizations and the American public.