

Date: _____

Dear Congressman/woman _____,

I am an average, middle-class American citizen with a demanding, full- time job and a home to keep in order. As such, my days are very busy, so even taking the time to write this letter should be an indication of the importance I place on this issue.

I was recently made aware of H.R.503 and how it offers hope for finally ending the horrible practice of shipping horses from the United States for slaughtering overseas for foreign human consumption. Even though Americans do not eat horse meat, and the last horse slaughter houses in the US were closed in 2007, more than 100,000 American horses a year are shipped under horrific and inhumane conditions to Canada and Mexico where they are cruelly slaughtered to satisfy the markets for horsemeat in Europe and Asia.

To make matters even worse, these overseas slaughter houses and processing plants are not subject to any U.S. oversight or regulation, and as a result cruel and inhumane killing methods are routinely used. To maximize profit, horses are shipped using the cheapest transport possible, which results in extreme overcrowding and causes most of the horses to suffer painful injuries, including broken bones. The horses must also endure long periods of confinement without adequate food, water, medical treatment, or even air to breathe before reaching their final destination. After enduring this cruel journey, they are then subjected to very inhumane conditions and torturous killing methods since the countries where these plants operate typically do not effectively regulate them.

Please take a moment to review the enclosed photos that depict some of the appalling cruelty and unimaginable pain that is routinely inflicted on tens of thousands of American horses each year. After you have considered this disturbing information, I hope you will take immediate action and lend your support to H.R. 503, which is now pending in the House Judiciary Committee. In any event, I would appreciate hearing from you personally as to your position on this troubling situation.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

