

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0008

Equine resources.

Sponsored by: Representative Representative(s) Wallis, Semlek and Shepperson and Senator(s) Geis, Hines and Schiffer

A Bill

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION urging Congress to oppose federal
2 legislation that interferes with a state's ability to
3 direct the transport or processing of horses.

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5 WHEREAS, the processing of horses has become a
6 controversial and emotional issue and has resulted in the
7 closing of all horse processing facilities throughout the
8 United States; and

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10 WHEREAS, federal legislation was introduced to amend the
11 1970 Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping,
12 transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing,
13 purchasing, selling or donation of horses and other equines
14 for processing and other purposes; and

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1 WHEREAS, the loss of secondary markets has severely
2 impacted the livestock industry by eliminating the salvage
3 value of horses and has significantly reduced the market
4 value of all horses; and

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6 WHEREAS, prohibitions regarding the processing of horses
7 have resulted in significant increases in abandoned and
8 starving animals and have had significant economic impact
9 on the entire equine industry; and

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11 WHEREAS, the increase in unwanted or unusable horses has
12 overwhelmed private animal welfare agencies and the
13 public's ability to care for surplus domestic horses; and

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15 WHEREAS, the annual number of unwanted or unusable surplus
16 domestic horses is estimated to be one hundred thousand
17 (100,000), compounding annually; and

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19 WHEREAS, issues related to the humane handling and
20 slaughter of surplus domestic horses are best addressed by
21 proper regulations and inspection and not by banning or
22 exporting the issue; and

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1 WHEREAS, state agriculture and rural leaders recognize the
2 necessity and benefit of a state's ability to direct the
3 transport and processing of horses.

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5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
6 LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:

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8 **Section 1.** That Congress is urged to oppose federal
9 legislation that interferes with a state's ability to
10 direct the transport or processing of horses.

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12 **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
13 transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the
14 United States, President of the Senate and the Speaker of
15 the House of Representatives of the United States Congress
16 and the members of the Wyoming Congressional delegation.

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(END)