

WILLIE NELSON

LUCK ★ TEXAS



Support the Rahall/Whitfield/ Sweeney/Spratt Interior Appropriations Amendment to Prevent America's Wild Horses from being Slaughtered

May 18, 2006

To All Members of Congress:

As a nation that prides itself on leadership, we are long overdue in stopping the slaughter of wild and domestic horses for dishes in fancy foreign restaurants. The commercial sale and slaughter of our wild horses last year was just the latest example of how far we as Americans have lowered our standards of decency.

The news of 41 wild horses being sold to buyers who immediately resold them directly or indirectly to the horse slaughterhouse in Illinois is heartbreaking, but sadly not unexpected. Unless Congress acts now to end this tragic turn of events, more horses will meet a terrible fate.

No animal should be hauled across the country under the unhealthy and cruel conditions these horses face, whether the animal is acquired legally or illegally. Following their faithful service to humankind, horses should not be killed so diners can eat their meat abroad.

Horses have always been a symbol of America—most people in our country wouldn't even consider eating them for dinner.

We strongly support the Rahall/Whitfield/Sweeney/Spratt Interior Appropriations Amendment to restore protections for wild horses and burros. We urge you to follow the outstanding leadership of the amendment's sponsors and support the legislation as well. It's about saving the lives of thousands of innocent horses, but it's also about a better America.

On behalf of my friends, thank you for your urgent consideration of the effort to end horse slaughter. For additional information, please call (703) 836-4300 or visit us at www.horse-protection.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Willie Nelson".

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|---|--|
| <i>Ed Asner</i> | <i>Daryl Hannah</i> |
| <i>Shane Barbi</i> | <i>Tess Harper</i> |
| <i>Sia Barbi</i> | <i>Tippi Hedren</i> |
| <i>Barbara Bosson</i> | <i>Laura Hillenbrand,</i> <i>author of Seabiscuit</i> |
| <i>Ed Begley Jr.</i> | <i>George Jones</i> |
| <i>Randy Bernard,</i> <i>CEO, Professional Bull</i> <i>Riders, Inc.</i> | <i>Ashley Judd</i> |
| <i>Kelly Bishop</i> | <i>Toby Keith</i> |
| <i>Linda Blair</i> | <i>Eddy Kilroy,</i> <i>Hank's Place</i> |
| <i>Barbara Bosson</i> | <i>Carole King</i> |
| <i>Bruce Boxleitner</i> | <i>Kris Kristofferson</i> |
| <i>Jeff Bridges</i> | <i>George Lopez</i> |
| <i>Christie Brinkley</i> | <i>Wendie Malick</i> |
| <i>Rita Coolidge</i> | <i>Peter Max</i> |
| <i>John Corbett</i> | <i>Mrs. Roger (Mary)</i> <i>Miller</i> |
| <i>Alex Cord</i> | <i>Steve Miller</i> |
| <i>Catherine Crier,</i> <i>Court TV</i> | <i>Mary Tyler Moore</i> |
| <i>James Cromwell</i> | <i>Patrick McDonnell,</i> <i>MUTTS ©</i> |
| <i>Sheryl Crow</i> | <i>Sir Paul McCartney</i> |
| <i>Tony Curtis</i> | <i>Ali McGraw</i> |
| <i>Ellen DeGeneres</i> | <i>Alexandra Paul</i> |
| <i>Ron Delsener</i> | <i>Richard Pryor</i> |
| <i>Bo Derek</i> | <i>Carl Reiner</i> |
| <i>Clint Eastwood</i> | <i>Keith Richards</i> |
| <i>Mike Epps</i> | <i>Eric Roberts</i> |
| <i>Will Estes</i> | <i>Kid Rock</i> |
| <i>Shelley Fabares</i> | <i>Theresa Russell</i> |
| <i>Morgan Fairchild</i> | <i>Nicollette Sheridan</i> |
| <i>Mike Farrell</i> | <i>Chris Shivers,</i> <i>two-time World</i> <i>Champion Bull Rider</i> |
| <i>Jorja Fox</i> | <i>Mira Sorvino</i> |
| <i>John Forsythe</i> | <i>Paul Sorvino</i> |
| <i>Morgan Freeman</i> | <i>Bernie Taupin</i> |
| <i>Kinky Friedman</i> | <i>Marisol Thomas</i> |
| <i>John Fusco,</i> <i>screenwriter</i> | <i>Rob Thomas</i> |
| <i>Richard Gere</i> | <i>Billy Bob Thornton</i> |
| <i>Melissa Gilbert</i> | <i>Shania Twain</i> |
| <i>Whoopi Goldberg</i> | <i>Mike White, World</i> <i>Champion Bull Rider</i> |
| <i>Jane Goodall, PhD.</i> | <i>Ken Wahl</i> |
| <i>Merv Griffin</i> | <i>Noah Wyle</i> |
| <i>Arlo Guthrie</i> | <i>Dwight Yoakam</i> |
| <i>Merle Haggard</i> | |
| <i>Jack Hanna</i> | |