

RESOLUTION E2-24
SUPPORT FOR THE EXPORT OF LIVE HORSES FOR SLAUGHTER

WHEREAS Bill S-270 is introducing the Prohibition of exporting live horses for slaughter and Bill C-355 is introducing the Prohibition of export of horses by air for slaughter Act; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government is proposing new legislation and changes to three Acts that will dramatically impact the industry of raising draft horses by imposing fines of \$50,000 and up to six months imprisonment for a summary conviction or \$250,000 and up to two years imprisonment for an indictment for transporting horses by air for slaughter; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government is always looking to open new doors for trade markets and partnering with other nations yet are willing to shut down an existing market with products already leaving Canada; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government has not conducted or completed a scientific study as to the impact of transporting horses for slaughter overseas by air; and

WHEREAS there are 12,000 to 13,000 mares, studs and foals in Canada that are currently being raised for this market; and

WHEREAS the Western Canadian Slaughter Facility for Horses has ceased operations and is not purchasing animals to be processed at their facility; and

WHEREAS producers do not have a local market to distribute their product but have an already established market globally;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT ALBERTA'S AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARDS REQUEST

that the Government of Alberta jointly lobby the Government of Canada alongside Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) to prevent these Bills from receiving royal assent.

SPONSORED BY: County of Wetaskiwin No. 10

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

CARRIED: _____

DEFEATED: _____

STATUS: Federal

DEPARTMENT: Agriculture and Agri Food Canada

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In June 2023, Singer-Songwriter Jann Arden and Senator Pierre Dalphond introduced the Horse Protection Act to the Senate proposing to ban the export of live horses for slaughter overseas. The ban will come into effect the day the bill is adopted.

In February 2022 the Canadian Food Inspection Agency suspended its Safe Food for Canadians License for Bouvry Exports in Fort MacLeod Alberta. This facility processed several types of meat including horse, beef, elk and bison and was an avenue for producers to get their product to market. When Bouvry's door closed, producers had to find other ways to get their product to market. Shipping live horses overseas was one way of accomplishing that.

Canada has seen an increase in the number of animals sent overseas in 2023. There are approximately 12,000 to 13,000 draft mares, studs and foals (mainly draft type) that are raised for this market with an approximate value of \$6,00 to \$8,000 per mare, \$5,000 to \$7,000 per stud and \$2,000 to \$3,000 per foal. Losing this, many animals either to the wild and becoming feral or euthanization will have an impact on other businesses such as farriers, truckers, vets and hay producers.

The Federal Government is looking to quash an already established market while meeting with other Nations around the world to open new markets and trade agreements.

Attached Documents

Canadian Bills:

[Bills S-270](#) and [Bill C-355](#)