

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 5

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

1
2 TO PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE
3 CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE
4 CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.
5

6 We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the State of Idaho
7 assembled in the First Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully
8 represent that:

9 WHEREAS, the processing of horses has become a controversial and emotional issue and
10 has resulted in the closing of all horse processing facilities throughout the United States; and

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

14 WHEREAS, the loss of secondary markets has severely impacted the livestock industry
15 by eliminating the salvage value of horses and has significantly reduced the market value of all
16 horses; and

17 WHEREAS, prohibitions regarding the processing of horses have resulted in significant
18 increases in abandoned and starving animals and have had significant economic impact on the
19 entire equine industry; and

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

22 WHEREAS, the annual number of unwanted or unusable surplus domestic horses is esti-
23 mated to be one hundred thousand (100,000), compounding annually; and

24 WHEREAS, issues related to the humane handling and slaughter of surplus domestic
25 horses are best addressed by proper regulations and inspection and not by banning or exporting
26 the issue; and

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

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of
30 the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein,
31 that Congress is urged to oppose federal legislation that interferes with a state's ability to direct
32 the transport or processing of horses.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be,
34 and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President
35 of the United States, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Represen-
36 tatives of Congress, and the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the
37 Congress of the United States.