

## House Resolution 13 - Introduced

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 13

BY SWEENEY

1 A Resolution urging support of efforts to improve the  
2 sustainability of the horse industry.

3 WHEREAS, the closing of horse harvesting facilities  
4 in America has decimated the equine industry, and has  
5 curtailed the ability of states and tribes to control  
6 the numbers of excess and abandoned horses on their  
7 lands; and

8 WHEREAS, documented reports indicate an increase  
9 of four hundred percent in the number of starved,  
10 abandoned, and neglected horses between 2008 and 2009  
11 alone; and

12 WHEREAS, federal appropriations law contains a  
13 prohibition on allowing federal dollars to be spent on  
14 salaries for inspectors who inspect horses before or  
15 after slaughter, making it impossible for operations  
16 that want to process horse meat to market this  
17 meat; and

18 WHEREAS, this has resulted in state budget increases  
19 and taxpayer costs at a time when states cannot afford  
20 unnecessary expense, and it has severely impacted  
21 the livestock industry as a whole by eliminating the  
22 salvage value of horses and significantly reducing the  
23 market value of all horses; and

24 WHEREAS, efforts under way to change the federal  
25 Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 and the federal Wild  
26 Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971, expand herd  
27 management areas, or allow the use of federal land for  
28 privately owned sanctuaries will only exacerbate the

1 issue; NOW THEREFORE,

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
3 That the Iowa House of Representatives fully supports  
4 the restoration and sustainability of the horse  
5 industry; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa House of  
7 Representatives encourages the United States Department  
8 of Agriculture, individual states, and concerned  
9 entities including those concerned with agriculture,  
10 natural resources, and wildlife conservation to  
11 support the restoration and sustainability of the horse  
12 industry; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That state agricultural  
14 and rural leaders urge the United States Secretary  
15 of Agriculture and the United States Department of  
16 Agriculture to continue to make regulatory decisions  
17 based on sound science; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
19 resolution be sent to the Honorable Tom Vilsack, United  
20 States Secretary of Agriculture; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
22 resolution be sent to the Honorable Tom Harkin,  
23 Chairman of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and  
24 Forestry Committee of the United States Senate;  
25 and the Honorable Frank Lucas, Chairman of the  
26 Committee on Agriculture, United States House of  
27 Representatives; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
29 resolution be sent to the members of Iowa's  
30 congressional delegation; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
2 resolution be sent to the chairpersons of the  
3 agriculture committees in other state legislatures.