

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 727

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain conduct relating to the use of horses for human consumption.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 26, 2009

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. LEAHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain conduct relating to the use of horses for human consumption.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Prevention of Equine
5 Cruelty Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. SLAUGHTER OF HORSES FOR HUMAN CONSUMP-**
2 **TION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 18, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 **“§ 50. Slaughter of horses for human consumption**

7 “(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), whoever
8 knowingly—

9 “(1) possesses, ships, transports, purchases,
10 sells, delivers, or receives, in or affecting interstate
11 commerce or foreign commerce, any horse with the
12 intent that it is to be slaughtered for human con-
13 sumption; or

14 “(2) possesses, ships, transports, purchases,
15 sells, delivers, or receives, in or affecting interstate
16 commerce or foreign commerce, any horse flesh or
17 carcass or part of a carcass, with the intent that it
18 is to be used for human consumption;

19 shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than
20 three years or both.

21 “(b) If—

22 “(1) the defendant engages in conduct that
23 would otherwise constitute an offense under sub-
24 section (a);

25 “(2) the defendant has no prior conviction
26 under this section; and

1 “(3) the conduct involves less than five horses
2 or less than 2000 pounds of horse flesh or carcass
3 or part of a carcass;

4 the defendant shall, instead of being punished under that
5 subsection, be fined under this title or imprisoned not
6 more than one year, or both.

7 “(c) As used in this section, the term ‘horse’ means
8 any member of the family Equidae.”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
10 for chapter 3 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
11 by adding at the end the following new item:

“50. Slaughter of horses for human consumption.”.

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