

## **Tell Congress to Pass the Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act of 2018!**

### **Background:**

The U.S. horse industry, which supports nearly one million American jobs and contributes \$122 billion to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), urges Congress to pass the bipartisan Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act (H.R. 1847/S. 2957). The PAST Act lays out a common sense solution to prevent the continued practice of taking action on a horse's limb to produce a higher gait that may cause pain, distress, inflammation, or lameness. The bill establishes a new system for inspecting horses for soring, revises penalties for violations of the Act, and modifies enforcement procedures.

Limited in scope, the bill outlines a specific framework to focus enforcement efforts on three horse breeds that continue to be the target of soring practices, including Tennessee Walking Horses, Spotted Saddle Horses, and Racking Horses. The treatment of these select breeds stands in stark contrast to the dramatic decline in the overall mistreatment of horses that has occurred since enactment of the HPA more than 40 years ago. By supporting the PAST Act, your elected officials will help modernize the Horse Protection Act of 1970 and end the practice of “soring” in the U.S.

### **Status:**

Since Reps. Yoho (R-FL) and Schrader (D-OR) introduced the PAST Act (H.R. 1847) in 2017, the House bill has won co-sponsorship from 284 House lawmakers, representing nearly two-thirds of elected representatives! Since that time, House leadership has referred the bill to the Energy and Commerce Committee. Sens. Crapo (R-ID) and Warner (D-VA) have introduced S. 2957, which is identical to the House bill. Although the bill has won 26 cosponsors since introduction in May, Senate leadership has referred the legislation to the Commerce Committee, where it has not moved.

### **Action:**

House Message: Tell your representative to urge Speaker Ryan (R-WI) and Minority Leader Pelosi (D-CA) to schedule a vote on the House floor and pass the bi-partisan PAST Act! Also, tell your lawmakers to support any effort to attach the PAST Act as an amendment to the 2018 farm bill, which the House is expected to consider before September 30.

Senate Message: Tell your senators to join the growing list of co-sponsors of S. 2957, and add momentum to this important, common-sense measure! If your senators are already co-sponsors, thank them for their support, and ask them to recruit senate colleagues to join the bipartisan group of PAST Act supporters!