

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

13 SEP 26 P4:00

SENATE
S. No. 1739

RECEIVED BY: *js*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2007, GMA-7 aired a documentary entitled "*Katay Kabayo*" hosted and written by Sandra Aguinaldo. She discovered that when horses figure in accidents in the race tracks, like those who break their legs, some of them go straight to the butchers instead of receiving medical care.

Several illegal slaughterhouses reportedly surround the Sta. Ana Race Track, with staff just waiting for the next accident to happen. The injured race horses are violently killed, sometimes in the open street. After tying their legs together, the horses are hit on the head, then chopped into pieces. It is allegedly a lucrative trade as the horse owners sell the animals at a low rate to the traders, while the horse meat can go for as high as 140 pesos per kilo when sold at the market.

Hence, this bill seeks to prohibit certain conduct relating to the use of horses for human consumption.*

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAO
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* This bill was originally filed in the third regular session of the 14th Congress.



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1 AN ACT
2 PROHIBITING CERTAIN CONDUCT RELATING TO THE USE OF HORSES
3 FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Prevention of Equine Cruelty
5 Act.”

6 SEC. 2. *Slaughter of Horses for Human Consumption.* –

7 (A) Except as provided under paragraph (B), whoever knowingly:

8 (1) possesses, ships, transports, purchases, sells, delivers, or receives, in or
9 affecting local or foreign commerce, any horse with the intent that it is to be
10 slaughtered for human consumption; or

11 (2) possesses, ships, transports, purchases, sells, delivers, or receives, in or
12 affecting local or foreign commerce, any horse flesh or carcass or part of a
13 carcass, with the intent that it is to be used for human consumption;

14 shall be fined Three Hundred Thousand Pesos (P300,000.00) or imprisoned for
15 not more than three (3) years, or both, at the discretion of the court.

16 (B) If:

17 (1) the defendant engages in conduct that would otherwise constitute an offense
18 under paragraph (A); and

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

1 the defendant shall, instead of being punished under paragraph (A), be fined One
2 Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one (1)
3 year, or both, at the discretion of the court.

4 SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
5 unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
6 valid and subsisting.

7 SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
8 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
9 with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

10 SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
11 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,