

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

SENATE  
S. No. 1955

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2007, GMA-7 aired a documentary entitled "*Katay Kabayo*" hosted and written by Ms. 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.<sup>1</sup>

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
*acs*

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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the third regular session of the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress.

JUL 27 1953

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Prevention of Equine  
5 Cruelty 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 not more  
15 than three years or both.

16 (B) If:

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

19 (2) the conduct involves less than five horses or less than 2000 pounds of  
20 horse 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 year, or  
3 both.

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

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9 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended  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

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

Approved,