

S 1161

Horse Protection Amendments Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Animals

Introduced: Apr 30, 2015

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Apr 30, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1161>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]

Party: Republican • **State:** TN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY] | R · KY | | Apr 30, 2015 |
| Sen. Paul, Rand [R-KY] | R · KY | | Apr 30, 2015 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee | Senate | Referred To | Apr 30, 2015 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Animals

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|---|
| 114 HR 4105 | Related bill | Nov 20, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade. |

Horse Protection Amendments Act of 2015

This bill amends the Horse Protection Act to replace the Designated Qualified Persons program responsible for inspecting horses for soring with a new inspection system. (The soring of horses is any of various actions taken on a horse's limb to produce a higher gait that may cause pain, distress, inflammation, or lameness.)

A sore horse must be disqualified from being shown or exhibited for at least 30 days for the first determination that the horse is sore and 90 days for a second determination and any subsequent determination.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) must establish a single Horse Industry Organization (HIO) in order to establish a formal affiliation with the management of each horse sale, horse exhibition, and horse sale or auction, appoint inspectors to conduct inspections, contract with equine veterinary experts to advise the HIO Board on objective scientific testing methods and certification of testing results, and otherwise ensure compliance with the Horse Protection Act.

The Commissioners of Agriculture for Tennessee and Kentucky must appoint individuals to govern the HIO. Those individuals must appoint individuals representing the Tennessee Walking Horse industry.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 30, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 30, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.