

S 2037

SAFE Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Jun 15, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Jun 15, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2037>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Kennedy, John [R-LA]	R · LA		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jun 15, 2023
Sen. Budd, Ted [R-NC]	R · NC		Oct 26, 2023
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Oct 26, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 15, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3475	Identical bill	Jun 23, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.

Save America's Forgotten Equines Act of 2023 or the SAFE Act of 2023

This bill permanently prohibits the slaughter of equines (e.g., horses and mules) for human consumption. (Current law prohibits the slaughter of dogs and cats for human consumption. This bill extends the prohibition to equines.)

Specifically, this bill prohibits a person from knowingly

- slaughtering an equine for human consumption; or
- shipping, transporting, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donating an equine to be slaughtered for human consumption or equine parts for human consumption.

The bill subjects a violator to a fine.

The bill applies to conduct in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce or within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States. However, it does not apply to an activity carried out by an Indian for a religious ceremony.

In recent years, appropriations acts have prohibited the Department of Agriculture (USDA) from using federal funds to inspect horses before they are slaughtered for human consumption. Therefore, there are currently no USDA-inspected horse slaughter facilities in the United States.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 15, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 15, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.