

SCOTT DESJARLAIS, M.D.
4TH DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA, GLOBAL HEALTH,
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COMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE, BENEFITS,
AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES



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August 3, 2016

Dr. Kay Carter-Corker
Assistant Deputy Administrator, Animal Care
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
4700 River Road, Unit 84
Riverdale, MD20737

RE: Docket Number APHIS-2011-0009

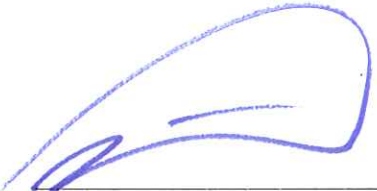
Dear Dr. Carter-Corker,

We are writing to request that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) extend the deadline for the submission of comments regarding the Proposed Rule referenced above that would significantly change regulations associated with the Horse Protection Act.


The Tennessee Walking Horse industry is a significant part of the economies of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia and other states across the country and is comprised of thousands of individuals and small businesses. These proposed rules, if adopted as final rules, would have extremely detrimental impacts to the industry, and the individuals, small businesses, and small local governments that operate within it or benefit from it. APHIS had little, if any contact, with members of the industry in an effort to develop the proposed rules before their publication. The notice of proposed rulemaking invites persons to submit data on key proposed provisions -- data that will take time and effort to compile. For all these reasons, it is imperative that APHIS provide ample and sufficient time for those impacted to gather evidence and information and submit detailed responses. We therefore request that APHIS extend the initial comment period deadline by sixty (60) days.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,




Scott DesJarlais
Member of Congress




Diane Black
Member of Congress





Andy Barr
Member of Congress




Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress


John Duncan
Member of Congress


Stephen Fincher
Member of Congress


Chuck Fleischmann
Member of Congress


Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress


Phil Roe
Member of Congress


Hal Rogers
Member of Congress

CC: Mr. Kevin Shea
Administrator
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
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