



Eugene Ray
County Mayor

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March 6, 2014

Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn
217 Cannon Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Blackburn,

I would like to commend you on the introduction of H.R. 4098, the Horse Protection Amendments Act of 2013. As Mayor of Bedford County the Tennessee Walking Horse industry is vital to so many of our communities.

The legislation you introduced is a common-sense approach that will reform the industry while preserving the rich tradition of the Tennessee Walking Horse. The rural, one-night horse show that is the backbone of the industry is vital to the charities and civic clubs of our county that benefit from the horse shows. Your legislation will allow those to continue and grow and thus provide more economic impact to our county and corresponding charities.

The Walking Horse industry has a rich tradition in Tennessee and we are pleased to see legislation that calls for objective, science-based inspections of our horses to ensure their welfare at events. We are encouraged and support fully the legislation you've introduced and thank you again for standing up for the tradition and history of the Tennessee Walking Horse that is so vital to communities in Tennessee.

Sincerely,

Mayor , Bedford County