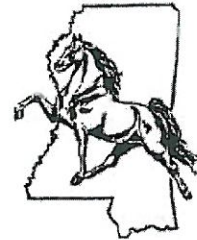


MISSISSIPPI WALKING HORSE ASSOCIATION  
1244 County Road 177  
Greenwood, Mississippi 38930



February 28, 2014

The MWAH stands in opposition to The PAST Act (Prevent All Soring Tactics Act) introduced by Representative Whitfield (KY) as H.R. 1518 and S 1406.

The PAST Act is breed specific legislation targeted at three equine industries, the Tennessee Walking Horse Association, Racking Horse Breeders Association, and Spotted Saddle Horse Association, although the Horse Protection Act for which the PAST Act seeks to amend covers all equines.

The PAST Act further seeks to ban the use of pads, action devices, bands and all weighted shoes although the horse industry is 96.7% compliant with the existing Horse Protection Act and federal rules and regulations.

The Horse Protection Act is a commerce law, intended to protect commerce from undue burdens and create a fair and dependable market for the horse, but the PAST Act seeks to destroy commerce by eliminating 85% of the show horses.

In Mississippi, this beloved breed has helped raise funds for numerous charities from the local Lions Club (aiding thousands of individuals in obtaining glasses, brail books, and even seeing-eye dogs) to Faith Haven (a battered women and children's home in Tupelo who was able to buy and build the home using funds procured from horse shows) to Blair Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson, the State's only children's hospital where no child is ever turned away due to finances, who received \$45,000.00 in 2013 from the horse industry.

The MWAH stands in favor of science based protocols that have been the subject of testing and are capable of producing scientifically reliable results, have been subjected to peer review; and have been accepted in the veterinary or other applicable scientific communities, rather than the opinion based protocols currently in place, to ensure full compliance with the law.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Carney  
President  
MWAH