



# The Horseracing Integrity Act

116<sup>th</sup> Congress

Sponsors: Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY) & Rep. Andy Barr (R-KY)

*"At a time when so many Americans are divided by politics, this issue can bring us together with support from across the equine industry and the aisles of Congress."*

❖ **Paul Tonko & Andy Barr**

## Horseracing is a Major Economic Driver

- The horseracing industry generates some **\$15.6 billion in direct economic impact**
- More than **241,000 U.S. jobs** are supported by the horse racing industry
- Many states benefit from the horseracing industry in the form of economic and job development
  - In New York, horseracing contributes more than **\$3 billion annually**
  - In Maryland, some **20,000 jobs** are sustained by the horse racing industry

## Lack of Uniformity Hurts the Sport

- There are 38 unique state racing commissions, each with different rules and regulations
- Roughly half of all Thoroughbred starts in the U.S. are from horses that compete in more than one state and nearly eighty percent of wagers are across state lines
- Nearly every country except for the U.S. has banned race-day medication, limiting the ability of American breeders, trainers and horses to compete abroad

## Congress Needs to Stop Horsing Around!

The **Horseracing Integrity Act** would establish a uniform national medication program, encouraging fair competition, modernizing regulations across state lines and prioritizing the safety and welfare of the people and equine athletes involved in the noble sport of kings.

### The Horseracing Integrity Act

1. Establishes a conflict-free, self-regulatory organization responsible for creating and implementing an anti-doping program for the entire horseracing industry
2. Develops standardized list of permitted and prohibited substances, treatments and methods for all covered races in the United States
3. Requires full & fair information disclosure to breeding stock purchasers and the wagering public
4. Bans the use of all medications within 24 hours of a race
5. Provides for the increased safety and welfare of horses, jockeys and drivers

**Supported by: Humane Society of the U.S., New York Racing Association, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), Animal Welfare Institute, the Water Hay Oats Alliance, the Jockey Club, Animal Wellness Action, the Breeders' Cup, Keeneland Association, the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, the Stronach Group**

***Congress has the opportunity to strengthen the competitiveness and legitimacy of America's sport of kings while respecting the health and nobility of the equine athlete. The time to act is now!***

Connect with Congressman Paul Tonko on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram: @RepPaulTonko