



December 27, 2011

Pattie Stalder  
Executive Director  
Kansas Horse Council  
8831 Quail Lane Suite 201  
Manhattan, KS 66502

Dear Ms. Stalder:

I am writing to support the Kansas Equine Education and Promotion Act (KEEP) that will be considered by the Kansas Legislature in 2012. The draft legislation proposed will establish the Kansas Equine Education and Promotion Board, and allow for a voluntary assessment on commercial equine feed.

The Kansas Quarter Association (KQHA) has been dedicated to the promotion of the Quarter Horse business in Kansas for over 60 years. There is a need for financial support for the equine industry in Kansas that will support education on animal welfare, increase research on equine-related issues, and increase programs and activities for horse owners' participation. KQHA promotes the breeding, training and showing of the American Quarter horse by hosting 28 American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) show competitions annually. We also provide support for trail riding, and for resources for rescues, 4-H and ranch rodeos. We also host a dynamic Rider with Disabilities competition at our shows.

The equine industry needs support, and this is apparent when we have to host our most prestigious event in Oklahoma, since our state does not have a facility that can accommodate a large exhibition of 750+ horses. KQHA is in full support of the efforts of the Kansas Horse Council in regards to this legislation.

Sincerely,

Diana Friend, president  
Kansas Quarter Horse Association  
6431 122<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Ozawkie, KS 66070  
785-554-5334