

ENROLLED SENATE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 46

By: Crutchfield of the Senate

and

Hyman of the House

A Concurrent Resolution memorializing Congress to request the United States Department of Agriculture to designate and approve an Equine Import/Export Station in Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the lack of an Equine Import/Export Station is detrimental to the equine performance and show industry in the State of Oklahoma. The Interstate 35 corridor is the heart of horse country. The majority of horses exported have their origins no farther than 150 miles from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Equine Import Stations are now located only at New York City, New York; Los Angeles, California; and Miami, Florida, while all of the major western equine competition is located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Fort Worth, Texas. Oklahoma City hosts the American Quarter Horse Association World Show, National Reining Horse Association Futurity, National Reining Horse Association Derby, and the National Cutting Horse Association non-pro Championship. European, Asian, and South American horsemen will increase participation in these world-class competitions if they do not have to incur financial burdens and time lost trucking their horses from New York City, Los Angeles, or Miami. The results should be a dramatic increase in participation from international horsemen; and

WHEREAS, to maintain a competitive advantage in hosting these world-class competitions for Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, it is necessary to have an Equine Import/Export Station located within this state. Cities from other states are currently making economic overtures and incentives to lure these shows to their localities. Location of an Equine Import/Export Station in Oklahoma would significantly counter incentives to relocate; and

WHEREAS, the existence of such a crucial piece of agricultural infrastructure as an Equine Import/Export Station is essential for Oklahoma's equine competition and training industry to survive in today's competitive marketplace. The direct impact of the horse shows held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is \$180 million annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature, because of the economic impact and potential to strengthen the equine industry in Oklahoma, memorializes the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation to request and support the United States Department of Agriculture to designate and approve an Equine Import/Export Station in Oklahoma.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation and the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Adopted by the Senate the 26th day of April, 2006.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 3rd day of May, 2006.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives