



Monty & Pat Roberts, Inc.

Creating a better world for horses and people...

**Congressman Ed Whitfield
2184 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515**

Dear Congressman Whitfield:

First, I would like to commend and applaud your actions and stance in moving forward with the P.A.S.T. Act (Prevent All Soring Tactics). You have made a tremendous step forward in protecting the Tennessee Walking Horse from the suffering it has endured for more than half a century. In addition, the freedom your bill will provide for the other horse breeds will have a tremendous positive impact for their welfare, and for future economic benefits.

I want you to know you have my full endorsement and authorization to utilize this letter for the passage of the P.A.S.T. Act H.R. 1518/S. 1406. For a number of years I worked with numerous Tennessee Walking Horses and encouraged their owners, trainers, and industry representatives to remove the pads (stacks) and action devices (chains), to no avail. In a previous public statement regarding the stacks and chains I said "...the artificial foot growth and the stacks were unnatural and harmful." I also recommended "...a lifetime suspension for anyone who would deliberately cause pain or set a horse up for pain in an attempt to improve performance."

I continue to support the sound and natural gait of the Tennessee Walking Horse in its purest form without the use of artificial devices. Your bill, which strengthens the Horse Protection Act, will offer the opportunity for those within the industry who want to do the right thing, a fair and level competition field.

So that you may know my credentials, in 2011, amidst the peak of the soring controversy related to the Tennessee Walking Horse, I was made an honorary Member of the Royal Victorian Order by Queen Elizabeth for service to Her Majesty and for my work to create a better world for horses and for people too. In addition, my autobiography "The Man Who Listens to Horses," and the novel "The Horse Whisperer", which was inspired by my work for Her Majesty in the early 1990s, were on the bestsellers lists. This launched a revolution in the way horses were trained.

Again, I thank you for your work, your bill, and I offer you my full support.

Kind regards,

Monty Roberts

October 14, 2013