



February 24, 2010

*Where All Horses Count*

## **Position Statement of the Kentucky Horse Council Regarding SB 105**

*The Kentucky Horse Council is dedicated, through education and leadership, to the protection and development of the Kentucky equine community.*

**The Kentucky Horse Council supports SB 105** which, if passed, would create the Kentucky Livestock Care Commission. It is the belief of the Kentucky Horse Council that it is to the benefit of the livestock industry to self regulate. The creation of care standards by producers will ensure that the standards are attainable and appropriate.

The Kentucky Horse Council has been educating animal control and peace officers over the past two years about the investigation of equine neglect cases. In 2009 KHC began partnering with the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association and expanded the training to include other species of livestock.

Under Kentucky law (KRS 525.130) animals of all species shall be provided adequate feed, space, drink, and health care. Unfortunately there are currently no provisions that describe "adequate" by species. The development of care standards under the terms of this legislation will legally define livestock care standards by species, as defined by best management practices within the livestock industry.

The Kentucky Horse Council views SB 105 as a great benefit to producers, the Kentucky livestock industry, and enforcement officials.