



LETTER FROM NTRA

Dear Supporters,

We are pleased to present you with the 2012 NTRA Legislative Action Campaign Annual Report. This report summarizes the work last year of the NTRA's federal legislative team and provides other information that supports this area of focus for the association.

Highlights of the 2012 Annual Report include:

- · Federal legislative summary that features updates on key issues and legislation that face the horse racing industry
- List of 2012 contributors
- NTRA Advantage Membership Benefits summary
- Summary of the 2013 investment incentives

We are grateful to those individuals and industry organizations who participated in the Legislative Action Campaign in 2012. Your involvement allows the NTRA to serve the industry through our federal legislative advocacy in Washington, D.C. and we look forward to working for you in 2013.

With Appreciation,

Joe Bacigalupo

Director of Government Relations & Membership Development

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NTRA MISSION STATEMENT

To improve the popularity of Thoroughbred horse racing and to improve economic conditions in the industry for NTRA stakeholders.

2012 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The 2012 elections had a significant impact on the second session of the 112th Congress. Not only did Congress operate under an abbreviated calendar for late summer/early autumn to accommodate lawmakers on the campaign trail, but members of Congress also chose to delay serious debate on a wide range of important issues until after the election during the lame duck session. As a consequence of this delay and the eventual lack of progress on important issues, when the 112th meeting of the legislative branch of the federal government concluded on January 3, 2013, it was labeled as the most ineffective Congress ever recorded in terms of the number of public laws passed.

Despite the gridlock and overall lack of activity, the 112th Congress did ultimately pass the American Taxpayer Relief Act (ATRA) which extended most of the Bush-era tax cuts for the majority of Americans. This last-minute legislation also included multiple provisions that benefit those in the horse racing industry.

Bonus depreciation had been expected to expire in 2013 but instead was reinstated as part of ATRA at 50 percent, just as it had been in 2012. The expense allowance, another popular investment incentive added to the federal tax code to counteract the effect of the recent economic downturn, was scheduled to be lowered from \$125,000 to \$25,000 for 2013; but it too was extended into 2013. And even better, the expense allowance was increased to \$500,000 in 2013 and made retroactive to 2012 at the \$500,000 amount as well. These investment incentives have existed at various levels over the past several years and the new levels for 2013 will help bloodstock markets continue to recover.

Following targeted lobbying by the NTRA, Congress also included language in ATRA that protects horseplayers from a newly enacted cap on itemized deductions. The language inserted as a consequence of our advocacy permits horse racing's customers to deduct their gambling losses up to the amount of their winnings, regardless of any limit on itemized deductions. A different outcome could have had a severe negative impact on pari-mutuel handle.

The NTRA actively monitored several online gambling bills introduced in the 112th Congress. We also worked closely with certain lawmakers on specific online poker legislation that was never introduced. In each case, our goal was to oppose such legislation unless racing's interests in the online market were adequately protected. In any event, there was no progress on any federal online gambling legislation in 2012. The outlook for such legislation in 2013 is unclear.

Below are summarizes of current federal legislative issues which may have a material effect on Thoroughbred racing and breeding. As the lead advocates for Thoroughbred racing in Congress, the NTRA monitors these and other bills on a daily basis. With the American Horse Council, the NTRA also educates members of Congress regarding key areas affecting the horse industry including agriculture economics and immigration.

Taxes

In the final days of the 112th Congress, negotiations over tax rates and provisions resulted in an agreement that extended the 50 percent bonus depreciation; increased the expense allowance to \$500,000 in 2013; and made the \$500,000 expense allowance retroactive to property purchased in 2012. Absent Congressional action, bonus depreciation would have been eliminated. The expense allowance, originally \$125,000 for 2012, would have reverted to \$25,000 in 2013.

Following targeted lobbying from the NTRA, Congress also approved language in the same bill that exempts wagering losses from being subject to the newly enacted limitation on itemized deductions. The language ensures that horseplayers can continue to deduct wagering losses against their winnings.

In the 2007/2008 and 2009/2010 Congresses, NTRA secured introduction of the Pari-mutuel Conformity and Equality Act of (PACE Act) in the House of Representatives. The bill would eliminate the automatic federal tax withholding on pari-mutuel winnings of \$5,000 or more at odds of at least 300-1. Pari-mutuel winnings are subject to automatic federal tax withholding, reducing players' liquidity during handicapping and impacting pari-mutuel handle and purses. Withholding levels for pari-mutuel winnings were last changed (from \$1,000 to \$5,000) in 1992. The PACE Act was not introduced as a stand-alone bill in 2011/2012, but the language – along with language that would double IRS reporting requirements for pari-mutuel winnings from \$600 to \$1,200 – remains a top issue for the NTRA.

Animal Welfare

For the last decade, horse slaughter legislation has been introduced at the federal level. More recently, bills to address medication in horse racing have been introduced. For different reasons, both issues have proven polarizing and resulted in little Congressional action.

American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (H.R. 2966/S. 1176)

Introduced by Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN) and Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA), respectively, H.R. 2966/S. 1176 amends the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption.

Passage of an appropriations bill late in 2011 re-instituted funding for government meat inspectors to operate at horse slaughter plants located in the U.S. Without inspectors, the U.S. had a ∂e facto ban on horse slaughter and animals were shipped to Canada or Mexico. Several states are now examining whether to (re)open horse slaughter facilities. In the meantime, the European Union, a major market for U.S. horses slaughtered in Canada and Mexico, instituted a requirement for lifetime medication records for slaughter-bound horses, effective August 1, 2013. Canada ceased accepting slaughter-bound horses from the U.S. in October 2012.

Immigration

Congress paid scant attention to immigration reform in 2011/2012. New H-2B wage rules that would have resulted in significant wage increases were put on hold through a defunding of programs to implement the changes. In a bipartisan effort, several leading Senators have vowed to take up immigration matters in the 113th Congress and already have made good on this promise. In January 2013, President Obama and the aforementioned group of Senators each offered a framework that could lead to legislation later this year designed to overhaul the nation's immigration laws.



NTRA'S FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE STRATEGY

The NTRA's Lexington, Ky.-based government relations team performs a broad array of legislative advocacy services for the horse racing and breeding industry. Working closely with the NTRA membership and Board of Directors, the team determines the industry's governmental priorities and then develops a comprehensive legislative strategy to achieve these priorities. The current strategy includes building relationships with members of Congress and their staffs, educating them on industry issues and concerns and introducing lawmakers and staff to industry members in the field.

The government relations team is in daily contact with The Alpine Group, the NTRA's lobbying arm on Capitol Hill. The Alpine Group's guidance and expertise are invaluable and help move the horse industry's legislative agenda through Congressional processes. From meetings with Congressional staffers and members of Congress, to bill drafting, to committee mark-ups, hearings and votes, The Alpine Group provides the expertise essential to effective advocacy.

Another key member of the NTRA government relations team is Davis and Harman partner Tad Davis. Davis provides the NTRA membership with a sophisticated tax advice and advocacy. Whether it's economic incentives to encourage the breeding and sale of horses or the elimination of onerous taxation of pari-mutuel wagering, government policy has an enormous impact on the economics of horse racing. Davis provides the NTRA government relations team with the expertise necessary to achieve progressive federal tax policy.

One essential element of an effective advocacy strategy is fundraising. The NTRA primarily builds financial support through its Legislative Action Campaign's ¼% Check-off Program at major Thoroughbred auctions. Industry members who buy and sell at Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, Ocala Breeders' Sales Company, Barretts, Washington Thoroughbred Breeders & Owners Association and Breeders' Sales Company of Louisiana may contribute one quarter of one percent of each horse's sale price to help fund the Legislative Action Campaign.

Campaign finance also is important to NTRA advocacy. The NTRA government affairs team organizes and participates in political fundraisers on behalf of Horse PAC, the political action committee of the NTRA. In 2012, NTRA Horse PAC was the third leading gaming PAC by receipts, behind casino conglomerates Caesars International and MGM Resorts International.

Another component of the NTRA's government advocacy efforts is the NTRA's Safety and Integrity Alliance. Formed in 2008, the Alliance is a standing organization whose purpose is to advocate for the establishment of national uniform standards and practices in the areas of human and equine safety as well as integrity in conduct of horse racing. While the NTRA legislative priorities are federal in scope and application, the Alliance provides guidance at the state level through accreditation of tracks found to be in compliance with the Alliance Code of Standards. The Alliance Code is enforced in large part by regulations issued and enforced by state racing commissions. Alliance certification standards cover six broad areas: injury reporting and prevention; safety equipment and a safer racing environment; medication and testing; health and safety of jockeys; aftercare of equine athletes; and wagering security. For more information on the NTRA's work to protect the interests of its members and the industry at both the state and federal level, visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org.

The horse racing industry is part of a \$39 billion agri-business touching every state. Each year, almost \$11 billion is wagered on horse racing nationwide. Governmental regulation and oversight are critical to horse racing's economic development and long term survival. For this reason, the NTRA dedicates significant resources to protecting and promoting horse racing on Capitol Hill.

Starting with a landmark 2000 amendment to the Interstate Horseracing Act that paved the way for online betting on pari-mutuel horse racing, the NTRA has built a significant presence on Capitol Hill. The NTRA has strengthened its presence even as federal lobbying expenditures by all industries have skyrocketed. The chart below shows the tremendous growth in lobbying expenditures across all industries including the gambling sector in particular.

YEAR	LOBBYING – ALL INDUSTRIES	LOBBYING – GAMBLING INDUSTRY
2000	\$1.56 billion	\$15.53 million
2012	\$3.28 billion	\$33.75 million

As part of the gambling industry, the NTRA in 2012 spent less than one tenth of the amount spent by just one casino operator – Caesars Entertainment. Our strategic approach to government relations allows us to accomplish our objectives without the extraordinary amounts expended by other groups.

NTRA ADVANTAGE MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

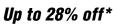
NTRA Advantage is a for-profit subsidiary of the NTRA that forms partnerships and sells products and services at reduced cost to more than one million members and affiliated members of the NTRA. Advantage partners include John Deere, Sherwin-Williams, OfficeMax, Valvoline and UPS. Major member groups include Breeders' Cup nominators, as well as members of the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, and Thoroughbred Owners of California. Affiliate members include the American Quarter Horse Association, Equine Canada, United States Equestrian Federation and the United States Trotting Association. Since 2002, NTRA Advantage has saved industry members over \$100 million. Purchases by NTRA members through the Advantage program average \$45 million annually.

Visit www.NTRAadvantage.com or call toll free 1-866-678-4289 for up to date partner information, including special pricing.



You are eligible for significant savings on nationally known products through NTRA Advantage.







Up to 40% off



10%-70% off



Up to 30% off



Up to 30% off

Call us toll-free at 866-678-4289 or visit www.NTRAadvantage.com

*Some restrictions apply.

2012 LEGISLATIVE ACTION CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS

A & A Ranch James P. Abel John H. Adger Airdrie Stud Airlie Stud Akindale Farm Alan Booge Racing Hector Alcade Randy Alderson Allied Bloodstock Fred Allor Neal M. Allread Almagest Farms Sheikh Joaan Al Thani American Legacy Sally J. Andersen Denny Andrews Arindel Farm Jack Armstrong Taylor Asbury Ashview Farm A Step Up Audley Farm Equine George Autry B & D Thoroughbreds **BG** Stables B & E Houck Leasing Baccari Bloodstock Steven Ballou Ballyhane Stud William Banahan Hector H. Barajas Ryan Barbazon Rozamund Barclay Bartolome Mafla H. Richard G. Barton Beau Lane Bloodstock Beaver Dam Farm Earl D. Bellamy Bella Vista Farms Howard Belvoir Dr. Oscar Benavides Polly Benson Ann Bernecker Besilu Stable Best a Luck Farm Carolyn Beverly Blackburn Farm Blue Sky Equine Blue Sky Farm Bluegrass Hall Bluegrass Thoroughbred Services Eugene Boehlke

Bona Terra Stud

Bona Venture Stables Bongo Racing Stable Bortolazzo Stables Bo Torrecilla Alta Lynne Boutte William Bradley Randy Bradshaw Luis Bravo Ian Brennan Briarbrooke Farm Britannia Farm Brookdale Sales Ronney W. Brown Stephen R. Brown Brushwood Stable BrvLvnn Farm Buckley Farm of Ocala Buck Wild Stable Built Wright Stable Christian & Carolyn Bulloch Burleson Farms Mike & Jeanne Burns Juan Cajigas Bret Calhoun Gerald M. Calhoun Calumet Farm Don Campbell Carmalley Valley Farm Riley L. Carr Webb Carroll Carter Thoroughbreds Casey Family Farm Casner Racing Mark Casse Caton and Schwartz Cattlemen Feeders John R. Ceary Chadds Ford Stable Champion Racing Stable Chanceland Farm Chapel Hill Farm Charlton Bloodstock Cherokee Equine International Chestertown Farm Chiyoda Farm Sam Christian Delores Christiansen Choctaw Racing Stable Chrys E. Chrys Joseph Ciaglia, Jr. Cicero Farms

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Bryan Rice Northview Stallion Station Dr. J. David Richardson Right Time Racing Julie Rini Riversedge Racing John J. Robb Edward S.Robbins III Richard Robertson Charles E. Robinson J. Kirk & Judy Robison Robson Thoroughbreds Dr. William J. Robson Juan Andres Rodriguez Rosemont Stud Andrew Rosen Stephen Rudolf Runnymede Farm Tyren H. Rushton Lisa Russell Paul Sabesky Marco P. Salazar Bobby Salome Sangreal Investments Saratoga Glen Farm Andrew Savas Saturday Racing Stable Bernard G. Schaeffer Shamrock Farms Merrill R. Scherer Richard Schrag Chad Schumer Fred Schwartz Cecil O. Seaman Sebold Racing Second Chance Stables Sue Sedlacek Select Sales Seven Fold Farm Shadwell Estate Company Shadwell Farm Shadybrook Farm N. H. Shannon Joe K. Shaw **Toby Sheets** Joseph V. Shields, Jr. Luis A. Shirley Shortleaf Stable Nancy Shuford Sienna Farm Simmons & Associates Gordon Simmons Robert Simonick Kim Smith

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The Posse Sally Thomas Tim Thornton Three Chimneys Sales Timber Creek Farm Timber Town Stable Tip Ranch Glenn Todd Cheryl Toole Mark Toothaker Top Line Sales Traton Homes Joe Treffiletti Triple T Ranch Tri Star Stables Robert B. Trussell, Jr. Truston Stables Lisa & Tim Turney Twin Oaks Training Twin Stars Racing Stable Twin Willow Farm Two Turn Farm Otabek Umarov

Upson Downs Farm Val-U-Chem Van Meter Sales Very Un Stable Ian Vickers Victory Cigar Racing Stable Carolyn R. Vogel Vossfeld Bloodstock John Wade Waggoner Farm Linda Walls Anne L. Walsh Ted Walsh Warrendale Sales Watermill Farm Wavertree Stables George Weaver Jolane Weeks Stephen B. Weissman Ernie Wells Kari Provost Wells Robert Werneth R. C. Wheeler

Whispering Oaks Farm White Oaks Farm John Willard Kathleen Willier Willow Oak Farm Willow Racing Carolyn Wilson Winding Lane Farm Joseph Winick Carole & David Winpigler Wintergreen Farm Wintickett Farm Wolver Hill Farm Mr. & Mrs. M. L. Wood Eddie Woods Gayle Woods Woodstock Racing Stable Young Thoroughbreds Steven W. Young II Arnold Zetcher Rodney Zimmerman

NTRA LEGISLATIVE ACTION CAMPAIGN PRIMER

What is the Legislative Action Campaign?

The Legislative Action Campaign empowers individual and corporate members of the NTRA to support federal legislative advocacy services for the horse racing and breeding industries.

How is the Legislative Action Campaign funded?

The Legislative Action Campaign raises funds through three programs: the ¼% Check-off, the NTRA Foal Registration Program and Horseplayers' Coalition membership. For the former, buyers and sellers may support the Campaign by pledging ¼ of one percent on the price of their horses sold at Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, Ocala Breeders' Sales Company, Barretts, Breeders' Sales Company of Louisiana and Washington Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association. Every \$1,000 in a horse's sale price equates to \$2.50 to the Campaign. Individuals who choose not to participate in auction sales may pledge contributions through the NTRA Foal Registration Program. Others may support the Campaign by joining the Horseplayers' Coalition, whose objective is to seek legislative and regulatory solutions to tax and business issues that impact pari-mutuel racetracks and their customers.

How do I participate?

Sellers, consignors and designated agents may "pre-commit" their pledge on sales entry forms for the ¼% Check-off. Sellers who miss the deadline for pre-commitments can pledge until the close of the sale billing. Buyers may include their contribution when submitting payment or by responding to an NTRA invoice. Owners and breeders may contribute through the NTRA Foal Registration Program. The NTRA solicits contributions to this program through a bi-annual direct mail campaign. Horseplayers and other individuals may become members of the Horseplayers' Coalition when joining the *Daily Racing Form*/NTRA National Handicapping Championship (NHC) Tour or by visiting www.HorseplayersCoalition.com.

How can Federal lobbying help make our industry more competitive?

By securing tax legislation that benefits industry stakeholder groups such as horse owners, breeders, racetracks, advance deposit wagering service providers and horseplayers and by addressing select issues that directly impact the economics of racing, such as taxation, Internet wagering, immigration and matters that affect farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers.

How does the NTRA lobby on Capitol Hill?

NTRA fields a government relations team based in Lexington, KY and retains the Washington, D.C-based Alpine Group to lobby on federal issues specific to pari-mutuel horse racing and breeding. NTRA coordinates with the American Horse Council on legislative advocacy for issues that impact all equine breeds and disciplines.









FUNDRAISING PROGRAM COMPARISON

What's the Difference?

Legislative Action Campaign

Political Action Committee

	Defisiative rection cumpuign	
Common Names:	"¼ Percent Check-off Program"	"Horse PAC" or "NTRA PAC"
Contribution Uses:	Contributions are used to support Federal legislative advocacy to benefit the racing and breeding industries.	Contributions are not co-mingled with NTRA corporate funds and may only be used to support political candidates and parties at the Federal level.
Contribution Limits:	There is no limit on the amount that can be contributed. Individuals and corporate entities like partnerships and farms can participate.	\$5,000 per individual, per year. Spouses of individual members may also contribute \$5,000 each. Contributions from corporations are not accepted.
Payment Methods:	Thoroughbred buyers and sellers contribute ¼% of the price of a horse sold at public auction to the NTRA's Legislative Action Campaign. Note these alternative ways to contribute: Owners/breeders and others who do not	Personal check or credit card (VISA, Discover, MasterCard or American Express), payable to Horse PAC and addressed to: Peggy Hendershot Horse PAC
	participate in auction sales may contribute through the NTRA Foal Registration Program. Horseplayers' Coalition members contribute \$25 when joining.	2525 Harrodsburg Road, Suite 510 Lexington, KY 40504
Deductibility:	May be tax deductible as an ordinary business expense.	Not tax deductible.
Added benefits:	Supporters are automatically eligible to receive preferred pricing on products and services from companies like John Deere, Sherwin-Williams, OfficeMax, Valvoline and UPS through NTRA Advantage. Visit www.NTRAadvantage.com or call toll free (866) 678-4289 for more information.	Horse PAC supporters are automatically eligible to receive preferred pricing on products and services from companies like John Deere, Sherwin-Williams, OfficeMax, Valvoline and UPS through NTRA Advantage. Visit www.NTRAadvantage.com or call toll free (866) 678-4289 for more information.
Membership:	Participants automatically become NTRA members and may be PAC-eligible (see column to the right).	Contributors must be NTRA members.
Citizenship Requirements:	Open to U.S. citizens and foreign nationals.	Contributors must be U.S. citizens or permanent resident aliens.
NTRA Contact:	Joe Bacigalupo (859) 422-2677 joeb@ntra.com	Peggy Hendershot (859) 621-6929 phendershot@ntra.com

INDUSTRY ORGANIZATION THANK YOU

The NTRA extends its sincere appreciation to the following industry leaders for their generous support of the Legislative Action Campaign.







www.barretts.com









UPDATED INVESTMENT INCENTIVES FOR 2013

Below is a summary of the 2013 investment incentives that were put in place through passage of the American Taxpayer Relief Act in January 2013. To maximize the benefit of the incentives, the NTRA suggests that industry members consult a tax professional before purchasing horses, farm equipment or other assets for their business. Visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org for additional resources.

Investment Incentives Reinstated & Increased For 2013



Bonus Depreciation

- 50% bonus depreciation in place for 2013
- Applies to horses, farm equipment and most other depreciable property
- Property must be purchased and placed in service prior to 1/1/2014
- Property must be <u>new</u> original use of property must commence with taxpayer

Expense Allowance

- Expense allowance for horses, farm equipment and most other depreciable property is \$500,000
- Property must be purchased and placed in service prior to 1/1/2014
- Applies to <u>new or used</u> property
- Expense allowance is reduced by one dollar for each dollar of eligible property purchased that exceeds \$2 million
- Can be used to reduce taxable income derived from any business of taxpayer

www.SupportHorseRacing.org



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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