

**Public Policy Committee
2019 AQHA Convention
Fort Worth, Texas**

Mr. President, the Public Policy Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. To increase funding of the American Horse Council from \$80,000 to \$100,000.
2. To actively advocate for increased funding in the Veterans Benefits Administration budget for Equine Assisted Activity Therapy.
3. To continue to work with industry partners to identify a long term solution to eliminate chronic labor shortages by raising the cap for guest worker visas.
4. To continue to support tax extender legislation for the accelerated depreciation of race horses.
5. To continue to support the Prevent All Soring Tactics Act (H.R. 693).
6. To continue to oppose the Safeguard American Food Exports Act. (H.R. 961)
7. To continue to oppose the Horse Racing Integrity Act.
8. To advocate for the inclusion of the Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Act and the Recreation Not Red Tape Act in a "land package" to address trail maintenance issues.
9. To continue to pursue regulatory and legislative options that would exempt the livestock industry from mandatory use of electronic logging devices.
10. To support the American Association of Equine Practitioner's position on the management of Bureau Land Management Wild Horses and Burros.
11. To fund an update to AQHA's 50 state statutory survey defining the terms "livestock" and "companion animals."
12. To support an AQHA public policy congressional internship program with startup funding of \$5,000.
13. To fund a post-graduate fellowship designated to support AQHA's public policy lobbying and fundraising efforts'
14. That the Executive Committee appoint a task force to develop a plan for the implementation of the Safe Sport Initiative. The task force to include representatives from the Public Policy, Youth and Show committees as well as the Professional Horsemen's Council.

15. That the Executive Committee appoint a task force to update AQHA's position and messaging on horse's in transition.

16. That the Executive Committee appoint new Political Action Committee trustees.

17. To re-elect Dr. Calvin White as the Public Policy Committee chair.

On behalf of the Public Policy Committee, I move that the Membership support the recommendations and forward them to the Board of Directors for approval.

Calvin White, Chairperson

PENDING
EC APPROVAL
APRIL 2019