

## Talking Points in Support of Ride-to-Ride Bill

- Congressman George Radanovich is planning to reintroduce The Right to Ride bill, which is identical to the House-passed bill last year (HR 586).
- This legislation is intended to preserve the use and access of horses and pack stock to public lands where there is a historical tradition of such use.
- Right-to-Ride legislation is crucial to riders and their continued use of public lands.
- Horses have played a critical and historic role in opening and settling our country.
- What some may now perceive as recreation was once a vital part of everyday living, particularly in the West.
- This bill does not diminish the Secretary of Interior's ability to implement emergency closures or permanent reductions in the use and access of these pack and stock animals, after complying with the full public review process required by law.
- The House of Representatives passed this bill by voice vote in May 2006; it passed a similar bill in the 108th Congress.
- S. 781, introduced by Senator Mike Crapo of Idaho, was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on April 14, 2005.
- The recreational horse industry, which includes recreational riders and pack and saddle stock, has a \$32 billion effect on our economy each year and supports 435,000 jobs nationwide
- Please support this important legislation in the Congress this year

## SAMPLE RIGHT TO RIDE LETTER

[Please email or FAX to your Senators]

Date

The Honorable [Insert Congressman or Senator's Name]  
[United States House of Representatives or Senate]  
Washington D.C.

Dear [insert name]:

Last Congress, the House of Representatives passed, "The Right to Ride Livestock on Federal Lands Act of 2005" (H.R. 586). Congressman George Radanovich of California is planning to reintroduce the same bill that passed the House last Congress.

[We or Your Organization] ask that you support and co-sponsor this legislation in the 110th Congress. Millions of Americans enjoy trail riding because of the pleasure, exercise and family-

time that it provides. In addition, [please personalize the letter to your state, situation or interests, if you wish.]

The purpose of this legislation is to preserve the use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on public lands. The legislation would provide that public lands be managed by the various federal agencies to recognize and preserve the continued use of horses, pack and saddle stock on lands where there is an historical tradition of such use. But the legislation would not limit any Agency's ability to implement emergency closures or permanent reductions in the use and access of these animals, after complying with the full public review process required by law.

Millions of Americans enjoy trail riding because of the pleasure, exercise and family-time that it provides. The [insert your organization name here] is concerned that too often public lands and trails are closed and access denied to recreational riders without sufficient consideration of the long-standing use of horses and pack animals on these federal lands.

This country was settled by people on horseback. Please preserve this important American heritage by co-sponsoring and supporting this important legislation.

If you have any questions about riding in [insert your state], please contact us. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Your Organization and/or Name