

Banning Drugs

The mission statement of TOBA is “to improve the economics, integrity and pleasure of the sport on behalf of owners and breeders”. TOBA made a gallant stand in trying to stop the scourge of our sport...drugs...but it now appears that it cannot hold the line.

Some months ago the Jacksons, Strawbridges and Hancocks went to Washington at the request of Congressman Ed Whitfield and Senator Tom Udall, and a bill was drawn up by experienced staffers and lawyers in Washington and Lexington which would free the Thoroughbred industry from the shackles of performance enhancing drugs once and for all. Many concerned members of our industry are now behind this effort as it is becoming ever more clear that the industry isn't going to be able to police itself and that Federal legislation is the only solution available to solve the drug problem in our industry.

This is a notice to keep people informed that the bill in Washington (which stops the drugging of horses in races which are simulcast and which stops cheating trainers in their tracks) is very much alive and well. It is becoming more apparent to everyone that the way to stop the out of control drugging of racehorses is through the IHA (The Interstate Horseracing Act of 1978). Remember, the government gave us this legislation to permit simulcasting in the first place, and all it will take is an amendment to the IHA to prohibit the rampant drug use and corruption and to put a stop to those trainers who cheat once and for all. Thoroughbred racing is already in partnership with the Federal government so there is absolutely no truth to the statement, “The last thing we need is for the government to get in our business.”

If you are sick and tired of watching this industry go down the drain, standing by helplessly while wagering, attendance and handle continue to fall, and even witnessing certain organizations calling for the elimination of racing altogether, please add your signature in support of the IHIA, The Interstate Horseracing Improvement Act. We are steadily moving forward. Amending the IHA is really the only viable option...and in reality it is pretty simple. There is just nothing else that will work and there are decades of evidence demonstrating that fact.

Attached is a current list of those of us who support this bill, a copy of the bill itself, and a place for your signature.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Supporters of the IHIA

I, the undersigned, support The Interstate Horseracing Improvement Act.

Signature / Date _____

Print Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____