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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Children's Writing Campaign Building Groundswell of Support

Chicago (EWA) – The Equine Welfare Alliance (EWA) children's letter writing campaign to end horse slaughter, first announced on January 5th, has now received the support of The United Federation of Teachers (UFT) Humane Education Committee.

The Equine Welfare Alliance (EWA) was contacted by the committee to offer their support and to obtain additional information on the campaign. The committee enclosed a letter from one of their teachers with an email voicing support from Senator Joe Lieberman.

The EWA will provide information to help support, update and expand lesson plans developed by the committee. The plans can be found on the EWA's new <u>Children's Page</u>, along with fun and educational videos about famous horses.

The UFT Humane Education Committee's lessons already provided children with sound basic information about horses, their functions in our society, and the issue of horse slaughter. The UFT Humane Education Committee is involved in many such projects with the goal of enhancing student skills in science and literacy through humane education.

Support for the campaign has been overwhelming from both the U.S. and around the world. "Children aren't given enough credit for their intuitive understanding of right and wrong, especially when it pertains to humane treatment of animals", said EWAs Vicki Tobin. "We have received letters, poems, videos and pictures from children as young as 4 years old. We were amazed at the unique ways they made their points."

"In our opinion," explained EWA's John Holland, "it is vital to our society that children grow up with a healthy attitude toward all animals and their welfare. Such empathy for the plight of defenseless creatures will bring forth a healthier attitude toward their fellow humans later in life, and the legacy of young people who abuse animals has well documented and frightening consequences."

Jo-Claire Corcoran of EWAs research team started the campaign and is thrilled with the response she has received in support of America's horses. "Horses have played such a significant role in our country's history. Not only do horses continue to protect our citizens in law enforcement, they provide entertainment and serve as loyal companions", added Jo-Claire.

EWA is calling on children and adults to demand President Obama and our Congress pass the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act of 2011 and afford America's horses the protection they so richly deserve. The time is now.

Press requests for letters or video presentations by children should be made to: jo-claire@equinewelfarealliance.org.

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The Equine Welfare Alliance is a dues-free 501c4, umbrella organization with over 210 member organizations and hundreds of individual members worldwide. The organization focuses its efforts on the welfare of all equines and the preservation of wild equids. www.equinewelfarealliance.org