



November 1, 2010

In support of the Texas horse industry as well as the state's equine veterinarians, the Texas Veterinary Medical Association's Board of Directors and the Equine Practice and Legislative Committees recently passed the following resolution.

Resolved the Texas Veterinary Medical Association shall support the Texas Horse Agri Industry by supporting the legislation promulgated by Texas HORSE. The funds generated by the installation of VLTs (video lottery terminals) at licensed Texas racetracks will improve the life of the horse, individuals working with horses and the general horse industry by:

- raising purses at Texas race tracks to levels to regionally and nationally competitive levels,
- supplementing prize money of non-racing events through the Performance Horse Development Fund,
- funding scholarships for youth organizations,
- funding breed incentives for all major breeds,
- funding equine research,
- funding enhanced equine drug testing programs,
- funding equine retirement programs,
- funding capital improvement at racetracks,
- funding catastrophic insurance for Jockeys
- funding programs to address illegal gaming machines and ultimately reduce the total number of untaxed, unlicensed slot machines operating in the state,
- funding programs to promote responsible gaming,
- creation of a new revenue stream to the general fund of the Texas legislature.

The TVMA will actively support the passage of this resolution as a bill in the state legislature and will seek to help educate members of the legislature on the need to preserve and protect the Texas horse industry. If you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact the TVMA office at 512-452-4224.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Choate

Director of Government Relations/ General Counsel