

## **WILD HORSE LAWS**

- 1897 - The Nevada legislature passed a law allowing any citizen to shoot a wild horse on sight.
- 1971 - Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act passed by Congress.

§ "Congress finds and declares that wild free-roaming horses and burros are living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West; that they contribute to the diversity of life forms within the Nation and enrich the lives of the American people; and that these horses and burros are fast disappearing from the American scene. It is the policy of Congress that wild free-roaming horses and burros shall be protected from capture, branding, harassment, or death; and to accomplish this they are to be considered in the area where presently found, as an integral part of the natural system of the public lands."

- 2004 - Sen. Conrad Burns (R-MT) slipped a provision into a 3,000-page omnibus spending bill in December 2004 that effectively guts federal protections afforded to wild horses.

§ Division E, Section 142, of the Consolidated Appropriations Bill - H.R. 4818 (aka "Omnibus Spending bill.")

§ The language specifies that the horses "SHALL" be sold, rather than the more flexible "MAY."

§ Wild horses over the age of ten will be sold without limitations.

§ Wild horses aged ten and under will be sold without limitations if they are not adopted in three adoption attempts.

§ Selling wild horses for slaughter will no longer be considered a crime.