

1 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
2 Snohomish County, Washington

3
4 AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 12-106

5
6 AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE SLAUGHTER OF HORSES AND OTHER
7 EQUINES FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, ADDING A NEW CHAPTER TO
8 TITLE 10 SCC, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES
9

10 WHEREAS, horses and other equines are domestic animals that are used
11 primarily for recreation, pleasure, and sport; and
12

13 WHEREAS, unlike cows, pigs, and many other animals, horses and other
14 equines are not raised for the purpose of being slaughtered for human consumption;
15 and
16

17 WHEREAS, persons selling horses or other equines at auctions are seldom
18 aware that the animals may be bought for the purpose of being slaughtered for human
19 consumption; and
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21 WHEREAS, slaughtering horses for human consumption provides monetary
22 incentives that are inconsistent with the health and well being of horses and persons
23 concerned for their welfare; and
24

25 WHEREAS, Snohomish County has a legitimate interest in protecting animals
26 that are valued by the County and its residents as provided herein;
27

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:
29

30 Section 1. A new chapter is added to Title 10 of the Snohomish County Code to
31 read:
32

33 **Chapter 10.65**

34
35 **HORSE SLAUGHTER FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**
36

37 Sections:

38 10.65.010 Definitions.

39 10.65.020 Horse slaughter for human consumption unlawful.
40

41 **10.65.010 Definitions.** In this chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise,

42 (1) "Horse" means any animal of the genus equus, including any horse, pony,
43 donkey, or mule;

44 (2) "Horse meat" means the flesh of any horse or other equine;

- (3) "Person" has the meaning given in SCC 1.01.040; and
- (4) "Slaughter" means to kill a horse or other equine.

10.65.020 Horse slaughter for human consumption unlawful.

- (1) It is unlawful for any person to slaughter a horse if that person has knowledge that any of the horse meat will be used for human consumption.
- (2) Violation of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 and/or by incarceration for not more than 90 days.
- (3) This section shall not apply to:
 - (a) Any noncommercial activity; or
 - (b) Any activity within an incorporated city or town; or
 - (c) Any person who sells a horse to a buyer who in turn either (1) himself slaughters the horse for human consumption, or (2) resells the horse to another person who slaughters the horse for human consumption.

PASSED this 19th day of December, 2012.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington


Chairperson

ATTEST:


Clerk of the Council


D-28

APPROVED

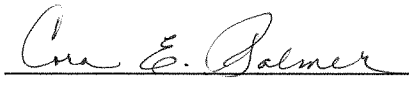
EMERGENCY

VETOED

DATE: 1/2/13


County Executive

ATTEST:


Approved as to form only:

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney