

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Your assistance is *critical* to the success of this bill!

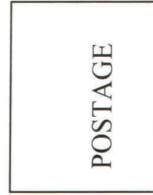
Phone calls, letters and emails to your state representatives and senators will greatly impact the outcome.

VOICE YOUR SUPPORT

Contact your state representatives and urge them to support H. 3044!



Carolina Marsh Tacky Association  
P.O. Box 1447  
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# Help Support H. 3044



A Bill to Designate the  
Marsh Tacky as the  
State Horse of  
South Carolina.

## **Unique to South Carolina**

The Marsh Tacky, a rare breed of Colonial Spanish Horse found in South Carolina, descended from Iberian horses that arrived on Spanish ships in the 1500's. The horses were abandoned along the South Carolina coast and managed to survive on their own.

Relative isolation on the Sea Islands and secluded areas of the Lowcountry enabled the horses to maintain



their Spanish traits. Over the centuries the abandoned horses became adapted to the environment and developed into a unique strain of Colonial Spanish Horse, North America's first true horse.

Other strains of the Colonial Spanish Horse include the Spanish Mustangs of the West, the Banker Horses of North Carolina and the Florida Cracker Horse, which became the Florida State Horse in 2008.

### ***Marsh Tacky***

## **Historically Significant**

During the Revolutionary War, Marsh Tackies assisted in the victories of the famous "Swamp Fox," General Francis Marion, by enabling the Southern Militia to out maneuver British troops.



Marsh Tackies also served the Southern Confederate Cavalry in the Civil War and helped to protect our mainland during World War II with the Coast Guard's Mounted Beach Patrol.

After the Civil War, Marsh Tackies became an essential part of the Gullah community and the agricultural community of the Lowcountry. They were used wherever horsepower was needed; to pull plows, herd cattle, hunt wild game, deliver mail, and to take families to church and children to school. Every Lowcountry family seemingly had a Marsh Tacky in their fields or gardens. They were once the major source of transportation along the coast.

## **Endangered**

Traditional uses of the Marsh Tacky have now been replaced by machines and their numbers have dwindled to less than 250 horses.

Individual owners and enthusiasts along with the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy are diligently working to save the Marsh Tacky and to preserve its rich history.

A bill has been introduced to designate the Marsh Tacky as the State Horse of South Carolina. Such recognition would emphasize the important role that the Marsh Tacky has played in the development of the state and would heighten awareness of our endangered equine. Having a unique state horse would also be beneficial to SC tourism.

You can help the Marsh Tacky by contacting your state representatives. Urge them to support the State Horse Bill H 3044. (The bill is currently stalled in the House Invitations and Memorial Resolutions Committee)

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For updates on the State Horse Bill or to join the Carolina Marsh Tacky Association visit [www.marshtacky.org](http://www.marshtacky.org).