

April 4, 2013

Members of Oregon Legislature

Re: SB 790

As residents of Jordan Valley, the ban of horse tripping would jeopardize the local Big Loop Rodeo held the third weekend of May. Big Loop roping is the signature event of the local rodeo where colts are roped by the head and front legs.

The Big Loop rodeo brings many outside dollars to the local economy and gives all of the local businesses a huge boost after a long winter. It is possible, that some businesses could close without this boost of income. Like many small towns in Eastern Oregon and Malheur County, recovery from the 2008 recession is slow in coming and may not come at all.

As the manager of a local convenience store, the loss of rodeo income would drop our bottom line by an astronomical amount. We bring in more dollars over the course of this three day event than entire winter months.

Many local benevolent organizations profit from fundraisers during this weekend. The local Catholic Church sponsors a breakfast and normally profits over a thousand dollars in an attempt to keep their doors open.

In making your decision, please keep in mind the citizens of the Eastern part of the state. We are small in number but if this bill passes it will have a disastrous effect on Jordan Valley.

Thank You,

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