

On Sunday, columnist Mark Steyn wrote about one of the most absurd pieces of legislation – the Restore Our American Mustangs act (ROAM), which amounts to a massive government spending program (\$700 million) to assure that wild horses have plenty of land and are not euthanized. Writes Steyn:

Under this legislation, no horses or burros could be, ah, terminated, and they would have to be released from their holding pens after six months. To facilitate the release of the tame “wild horse” population, the act adds to their present 33-million acre habitat (that’s bigger than New York State) another 20 million acres – or approximately the size of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont combined. The Congressional Budget Office estimates the total tab at around \$700 million – ie, chump change. ... wildhorse1 If you’re wondering why it costs more to keep a horse on 52 million acres of wilderness than it does to stable him at an upscale horse farm in New England, that’s because, in order to prevent the mustang population doubling again by 2013 and requiring the annexation of another 50 million acres (i.e., an area the size of Ireland, Denmark, Belgium, and the Netherlands combined), the bill mandates “enhanced” contraception for horses and burros.

It passed the House of Representatives on July 17 with the support of John Campbell, Ed Royce and Ken Calvert. Gary Miller didn’t vote on this one. Dana Rohrabacher and Loretta Sanchez had the sense to vote no.