

Mrs. Katie Larson
9411 Mount Zion Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66502

February 9, 2025

Dear Committee Members

I am writing to show my support for bringing live horse racing back to Kansas. I am deeply rooted in many aspects of the equine industry and believe horse racing in Kansas can boost the local economy and support our heritage. I am a board member of the Kansas Quarter Horse Racing Association, member of Women's Professional Rodeo Association, National Barrel Horse Association, Better Barrel Racing, Licensed and participating race horse owner of Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Kentucky, and Iowa.

Horse racing in Kansas will allow my family to race our horses here in our own state. Currently we race in New Mexico, Kentucky, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. We attend races and we spend lodging, fuel and meals in racing communities as well as participate in parimutuel betting. We would like to spend those funds in our own home state of Kansas.

My family also has a unique connection as we race 2, 3, and 4 year olds then give them a second career in the western performance field. After their race careers they come home to our farm and begin their training for their 2nd career as a performance horse. My husband, 8 year old daughter, and myself all compete, on our past race horses throughout the midwest in various team roping, barrel racing, steer wrestling and junior rodeo competitions.

I am a 4th generation Kansas horseman and I want to pass this opportunity to the future generations to come. I remember as a small child being at Eureka Downs, Woodlands and Anthony Downs - all many great memories. There is still an opportunity for my own daughter to have those live Kansas racing memories. Please support this bill.

Thank you for your support,

Katie Larson