

## IT'S TIME TO RIGHT A WRONG

Testimony in Support of HB2545

By Ernie Rodina

Good Morning Representatives & Chairman Barker

It is a privilege and honor to get to speak to all of you concerning passing the HB 2545 which would put privately owned slot machines at the same tax level as State Run Casinos. I really love the theme of our cause being "Do The Right Thing". Being involved in the horse industry most of my life and as a sales rep for Purina Animal Nutrition for 35.5 years in Eastern Kansas, I have seen the positive economic impact the race tracks have brought to Kansas. This includes feed stores, veterinarian services, animal health, breeding services just to mention a few. Now owning, developing, and being involved in Better Horses which is an Equine Media company involving both regionally and nationally and includes Radio, TV, and Print. I have personally witnessed, Breeding and Training facilities closing down and leaving Kansas. To see the Kansas Families that are directly involved in both the Horse and Dog Racing Industry and doing a great job really is rewarding. Their industry needs for us to pass HB 2545 to secure their future. Lets keep these businesses at home in Kansas.

"Do the Right Thing" I am a Christian that loves my Lord, my family, my country and Kansas. Doing the Right Thing means giving everyone an "even playing field with the tax rates. My family and I have lived in the Ottawa, Ks.area for the last 37 years. I was born and raised in Kansas City, Kansas and I guess would be considered 'AN ORIGINAL DOTTE". You can take the boy out of the DOTTE, but you can never take the DOTTE OUT OF THE BOY." Not only am I excited to see what reopening The Woodlands will do for Wyandotte County and KCK but the new businesses that will follow them to the area. Tremendous Growth.

We built this country on "Free Enterprise" and being fair. Here we have an opportunity to increase revenue for the state of Kansas and it is all built with privately owned funding, no funding by the State. The State of Kansas needs this Revenue. Gambling is legal, horse and dog racing is legal, let's do the Right Thing and pass the HB 2545.

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