

Patricia Freeman
12946 Meriden Road
Meriden, Kansas 66512

February 10, 2018

RE: HB2545

Dear Chairperson Baker and Committee Members:

I am asking that you please reject HB2545. Aside from the inherent cruelty (overbreeding, extreme confinement, drugging, injuries and killing of nonperforming dogs), greyhound racing is a dying industry. Greyhound racing is illegal in 40 states and was a financial loser for Kansas with a 95% decline in gambling from 1990 to 2007 forcing the facilities to close in August of 2008 leaving the taxpayers/rescues/shelters to bear the financial burden for the care of these forsaken dogs once no longer profitable for their owners/breeders.

Slot machine subsidies do not work. This idea has been attempted in many other states and has failed. My home State of Iowa lost \$14 million a year promoting greyhound racing and currently, West Virginia, who also subsidizes dog racing, has seen attendance levels drop by as much as 99%. The tracks in Florida lose over \$30 million per year on dog racing because betting on dogs has declined by almost 100% in this State.

As mentioned above, the dogs lose too. In the last six months of racing in Kansas, 19 dogs died and 80 dogs suffered broken legs, broken backs and other injuries. This "sport" should never return to our State as it would be an epic failure financially, morally and ethically.

Sincerely,

Patricia Freeman