

February 11th, 2018

Re: HB 2545 Opponent Written Testimony Only
House Federal and State affairs

Dear Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to you to ask that you **Oppose HB 2545** which would bring greyhound racing back to KS.

My name is Kara Knight, President of Heartstrings Animal Advocates. I am concerned about the quality of the dogs lives that are being forced to race as entertainment. Are they spayed and neutered, given all their vaccines, where are they housed? Do they get much human interaction? How many races do they run a day? What happens if they get injured, such as an ACL tear, do they rehabilitate them? Or do they euthanize them because they are lame and no longer a money maker? How long of a period do they race for and what is the plan for them once they are retired?

My fear is these dogs will be dumped at shelters and won't be well socialized resulting in being euthanized after a few years of racing or given away not fixed which will result in continuous overbreeding. There are already casinos here for gamblers, we don't need to use animals as a source of entertainment.

Florida loses millions each year in greyhound racing so this is not going to be a money maker.

I ask you to **Oppose HB 2545**, to keep greyhound racing from returning to KS.

Sincerely,

Kara Knight
President, Heartstrings Animal Advocates