

February 11, 2018

Re: HB 2545 OPPONENT WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY
House Federal and State Affairs

Dear Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

I am writing you today to ask that you **OPPOSE HB 2545**, a bill that would bring back greyhound racing to Kansas.

My name is Lauren Peterson and I am a proud resident of Sedgwick County. To learn of the reopening of a greyhound racing track is devastating news.

This issue is extremely important to me as I spend much of my time trying to educate my middle school students about animal rescue and how we can all make a difference. I speak for many young children, young adults and other educators when I say - WE DO NOT WANT GREYHOUND RACING to return to Sedgwick County!

My students have found their passion for helping animals and being a voice for the voiceless; I fear that news of a new greyhound track would be a huge step in the wrong direction. We are all aware of the horrific treatment these dogs receive and how the reopening of a race track would only add to the overproduction, neglect and abuse problem we currently have.

The shelters in Sedgwick County are full. There are a limited amount of people that can foster. Funds are tight for most families in our area which means donations are scarce. HB 2545 will put a great strain on the amazing volunteer groups who have been working tirelessly to stop animal overproduction and abuse.

I ask that you please consider the students that will become our future leaders, the teachers who spend their days advocating for those without a voice and the beloved animals of Sedgwick County and **OPPOSE HB 2545**.

Respectfully,
Lauren Peterson
Wichita, KS