From: Jessica Sherwood
To: Connie Bahner
Subject: HB2545
Date: Sunday, February 11, 2018 7:40:36 PM

February 10, 2018

Dear Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

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

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 Jessica Sherwood and I am a Board Member for K-9 Karma Animal Advocates Inc. in Wichita, Kansas.

This issue is very important to me –we do NOT want Greyhound Racing to return to Sedgwick County. Greyhound racing is a dying industry and there is a reason it stopped in Kansas back in 2008. The racing industry promotes and tolerates an overproduction of dogs, many of whom will end up being destroyed or euthanized despite the best efforts of shelters and rescue groups. The shelters and rescues in Wichita are overfull as it is. It is an immense burden to our community to help the unwanted and dumped animals that end up in our shelters for no fault of their own. Who is going to be responsible for the influx of Greyhounds that can be expected to end up in our local shelters?

I am also very concerned about imposing a state dog racing mandate that forces a certain number of dogs to race a mandatory number of races per day. Have you seen how well that has worked in Florida? Florida tracks collectively lose $30 million each year on dog racing, according to financial statements the tracks are required to file with the state. Who is going to be held accountable for those kind of losses?

I ask you to **OPPOSE HB 2545**. Please do not let greyhound racing return to our great state of Kansas.

Thank you,

Jessica Sherwood
K-9 Karma Animal Advocates Inc.
Wichita, Kansas

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