



To: Chairman John Barker
Vice Chair Ron Highland
Members, House Federal & State Affairs Committee

From: Kathryn Titus

Re: HB 2545: Oppose Greyhound Racing in Kansas

Date: February 13, 2018

Dear Chairman Barker and Committee Members:

My name is Kathryn Titus, and I am a volunteer with KCREGAP. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

I have rescued, fostered and worked with dozens of greyhounds over the past 15 years. Many of them suffered serious racing injuries, a few of them died from their injuries and from intestinal bacterial parasites soon after being handed to our group for adoption – parasites originating from the low grade “meat” fed to them at the track. You will hear that there are strict standards and veterinary oversight in this industry; our hands-on experience shows that this is not the case.

Greyhound racing is a puppy mill with a gambling business over top. Kansas can do much better.

As you consider this bill, please be aware of these statistics:

- In the last six months of operation at The Woodlands, 80 dogs were injured. The majority of injuries were broken legs, but there were also sprains, torn muscles and a spinal injury. Nineteen dogs were euthanized or *died while racing*.
- It takes 500 to 1,000 greyhounds to keep a year-round track open and running. If Kansas brings greyhound racing back, the numbers of injured and dead greyhounds will likely skyrocket.

My story as well as these statistics is why I urge you to remove greyhound racing from HB 2545. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Titus, Leawood, KS

