

TO: Chairman Barker and the House Federal and State Affairs Committee
FROM: Terry Humphrey, lobbyist, Stray Dog Policy, Inc.
RE: Neutral in-person testimony on HB 2740
DATE: March 22, 2022

Chairman Barker, and members of the Committee, I am Terry Humphrey, Lobbyist for Stray Dog Policy, and I am here to provide neutral testimony on HB 2740.

Stray Dog Policy does not have a position on sports wagering or parimutuel wagering. Our sole focus is ensuring that the legislature does not offer any incentive or subsidy that revives the cruel and inhumane sport of greyhound racing, which has been rejected by the public and proven unprofitable in Kansas.

The current version of HB 2740 does not incentivize the return of greyhound racing; so we are neutral.

Nevertheless, we are very concerned that these provisions might make their way back into HB 2740. Nearly every sports wagering bill to date has included provisions that would incentivize the return of greyhound racing to Kansas. For example, previous sports wagering bills have been used as a vehicle to allow a Sedgwick County revote on slots. If slots are permitted at the racetrack in Sedgwick County, live greyhound racing must return to Kansas because live greyhound racing is a prerequisite for offering slots under the Kansas Expanded Lottery Act.

Today, we are neutral on HB 2740 because it doesn't include a Sedgwick County revote, does not allow sports wagering on greyhound races, and expressly provides that no live or simulcast greyhound racing may occur at any facility that offers historical horse racing machines. If HB 2740 is amended to omit this language or any other language is added or removed the net effect of which would be to incentivize the return of greyhound racing, we will strongly oppose the bill. Thank you.