

**Testimony  
SB 319  
Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee**

**January 31, 2012**

Doug Lawrence

Ruffin Companies

Chairman Brungardt and committee members,

The purpose of my testimony is to tie together the various pieces of SB 319 and discuss the overall approach that is represented in this legislation. Parts taken in isolation should be considered in the comprehensive bill as a strategy aimed at creating many new jobs through significant investments and increasing the state's revenue from gaming operations.

SB 319 has three parts:

1. Provisions improving economic viability of racetrack operations
2. Provisions ensuring a reasonable and fair purse structure for the Horse and Greyhound Industry.
3. Technical cleanup of the language which remains untouched since passage of SB 66 in 2007.

**Economic Viability**

Economic Viability provisions include increasing the share of revenues to the track operators to a level that will justify the necessary investments in the existing track facilities. Other change include making the Woodlands a Horse only facility, to reduce overhead and provide an opportunity to have a dedicated purse structure that leverages the value of horse simulcast markets.

SB 319 also allows for a Clear Vote on the Wichita Greyhound Park, which if passed, provides the greyhound industry with a quality commercial racetrack facility capable of generating competitive purse structures.

**Reasonable and fair purse structures**

Changes in electronic gaming machine distributions for purse structures, necessary to provide track operators with enough revenue to make the track investments has the effect of reducing funds for horse and greyhound purses. To provide additional purse opportunities, SB 319 also allows year round simulcast wagering which can accumulate purses over the course of the year for both horse and greyhound operators.

In addition, use of pari-mutuel tax revenues, which previously were used to pay the expenses of the racing and gaming commission, before the commission received the authority to bill gaming operators and track operators for regulatory costs, have been set aside to further enhance horse and greyhound purses, in addition to providing funding for problem gambling programs and travel and tourism promotion.

## **Summary**

Reopening the commercial tracks will create a significant number of jobs at each facility, while adding even more job opportunities throughout the state. SB 319 represents an opportunity for economic development throughout the state, while providing the state with a significant revenue stream from completion of the pari-mutuel side of the original SB 66.



4031 E Harry  
Wichita, KS 67218

A group of Sedgwick County residents have been working since November on a project to determine the attitudes of local residents about reopening Wichita Greyhound Park. The effort has been an overwhelming success. More than 6,000 county residents have signed up to support the effort.

Some may question whether residents are really interested in another vote. The numbers and a new poll tell the whole story.

January 25<sup>th</sup>, KWCH TV conducted a poll of county residents, asking whether residents supported or opposed allowing slot machines at Wichita Greyhound Park.

The complete poll results are attached.

Here's a summary

**3** Today, do you support or oppose allowing slot machines at Wichita Greyhound Park?

500 Adults Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.1%	All	Ideology			Party Affiliation		
		Conser	Moder	Liberal	Republi	Democr	Indepen
Support	71%	66%	74%	63%	71%	65%	75%
Oppose	25%	29%	24%	29%	23%	30%	21%
Not Sure	5%	5%	2%	8%	5%	5%	4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	40%	39%	13%	40%	33%	25%

# Results of SurveyUSA News Poll #18922



Agency: Sedgwick County  
 Data Collected: 01/25/2012  
 Release Date: 01/25/2012  
 Percentages

Sponsor:  
 KWCH-TV (Wichita)

**Support For Slot Machines at Wichita Greyhound Park:** 71% of Sedgwick County KS adults today say they would support allowing slot machines at Wichita Greyhound Park, according to this latest exclusive KWCH-TV news poll conducted by SurveyUSA. 14% of those who recall voting "No" on Proposition 2 in 2007 -- which would have allowed the slot machines -- today say they support the plan. Proposition 2 failed by a margin of 246 votes in 2007.

**1** In August 2007, Sedgwick County held a special election. Proposition 2 in that special election asked about allowing slot machines to be operated at the Wichita Greyhound Park. Do you remember how you voted on Proposition 2?

500 Adults	All	Gender					Age					Race					2007 Vote			Party Affiliation		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black	Hispani	Other	Yes	No	Not Sur	Republi	Democr	Indepen						
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.5%		41%	45%	37%	37%	41%	46%	47%	23%	14%	26%	100%	0%	0%	0%	49%	30%	48%				
Yes		20%	26%	15%	17%	20%	25%	18%	24%	41%	28%	0%	100%	0%	23%	21%	18%					
No		38%	29%	48%	46%	38%	29%	36%	54%	45%	45%	0%	0%	100%	29%	49%	35%					
Not Sure / Didn't Vote		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%					
Total		100%	49%	51%	30%	43%	26%	79%	8%	7%	6%	41%	20%	38%	40%	33%	25%					
Composition of Adults																						

**1** In August 2007, Sedgwick County held a special election. Proposition 2 in that special election asked about allowing slot machines to be operated at the Wichita Greyhound Park. Do you remember how you voted on Proposition 2?

500 Adults	All	Ideology		
		Conser	Modera	Liberal
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.5%		41%	48%	41%
Yes		20%	26%	16%
No		38%	26%	43%
Not Sure / Didn't Vote		100%	100%	100%
Total		100%	40%	39%
Composition of Adults				

**2** Have you ever been to the Sumner County Casino?

500 Adults	All	Gender		Age					Race					2007 Vote			Party Affiliation		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black	Hispani	Other	Yes	No	Not Sur	Republi	Democr	Indepen			
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4%		24%	22%	27%	30%	22%	21%	28%	18%	6%	5%	36%	8%	20%	20%	23%	34%		
Yes		72%	72%	72%	62%	78%	76%	71%	81%	63%	91%	63%	82%	77%	78%	76%	57%		
No		4%	6%	1%	8%	1%	3%	2%	1%	31%	4%	0%	10%	3%	1%	1%	8%		
Not Sure		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		
Total		100%	49%	51%	30%	43%	26%	79%	8%	7%	6%	41%	20%	38%	40%	33%	25%		
Composition of Adults																			

# Results of SurveyUSA News Poll #18922



ography: Sedgwick County  
 Data Collected: 01/25/2012  
 Release Date: 01/25/2012  
 Percentages

Sponsor:  
 KWCH-TV (Wichita)

## 2 Have you ever been to the Sumner County Casino?

500 Adults	All	Ideology		
		Conser	Moder	Liberal
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4%				
Yes	24%	25%	24%	16%
No	72%	74%	75%	67%
Not Sure	4%	1%	1%	17%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	40%	39%	13%

## 3 Today, do you support or oppose allowing slot machines at Wichita Greyhound Park?

500 Adults	All	Gender		Age			Race					2007 Vote			Party Affiliation		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-54	55+	White	Black	Hispani	Other	Yes	No	Not Sur	Republi	Democr	Indepen	
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.1%																	
Support	71%	68%	73%	80%	65%	69%	76%	69%	47%	30%	98%	14%	71%	71%	65%	75%	
Oppose	25%	27%	22%	17%	30%	25%	20%	30%	40%	56%	2%	80%	20%	23%	30%	21%	
Not Sure	5%	5%	5%	3%	5%	6%	4%	2%	13%	14%	1%	6%	9%	5%	5%	4%	
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Composition of Adults	100%	49%	51%	30%	43%	26%	79%	8%	7%	6%	41%	20%	38%	40%	33%	25%	

## 3 Today, do you support or oppose allowing slot machines at Wichita Greyhound Park?

500 Adults	All	Ideology		
		Conser	Moder	Liberal
Margin of Sampling Error: +/-4.1%				
Support	71%	66%	74%	63%
Oppose	25%	29%	24%	29%
Not Sure	5%	5%	2%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Adults	100%	40%	39%	13%

# Results of SurveyUSA News Poll #18922



2-1

Geography: Sedgwick County

Data Collected: 01/25/2012

Release Date: 01/25/2012

Percentages

Sponsor:  
KWCH-TV (Wichita)

**Statement of Methodology:** About the Poll: This poll was conducted by telephone in the voice of a professional announcer. Respondent households were selected at random, using Random Digit Dialed (RDD) sample provided by Survey Sampling, of Fairfield CT. All respondents heard the questions asked identically. The pollster's report includes the geography that was surveyed; the date(s) interviews were conducted, the number of respondents who answered each question and the theoretical margin of sampling error for each question. Where necessary, respondents were weighted using the most recent US Census estimates for age, gender, ethnic origin and region, to align the sample to the population. In theory, one can say with 95% certainty that the results would not vary by more than the stated margin of sampling error, in one direction or the other, had the entire universe of respondents with home telephones been interviewed with complete accuracy. There are other possible sources of error in all surveys that may be more serious than sampling error. These include: the difficulty of interviewing respondents who do not have a home telephone; the refusal by some with home telephones to be interviewed; the order in which questions are asked; the wording of questions; the way and extent to which data are weighted; and the manner in which specialized populations, such as likely voters, are determined. It is difficult to quantify the errors that may result from these and other factors. Research methodology, questionnaire design and fieldwork for this survey were completed by SurveyUSA of Clifton, NJ. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.