



LAWRENCE  
*Humane*  
S O C I E T Y

TO: Special Committee on Federal and State Affairs  
FROM: Kate Meghji, Executive Director  
DATE: February 3, 2017  
RE: Opposition to HB 2173: Please don't allow greyhound racing in Kansas

Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

I am the executive director of the Lawrence Humane Society, President of the Pet Animal Coalition of Kansas, a member of the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators, and I have been involved with animal sheltering and welfare for more than 10 years.

I am writing to ask you to vote NO on HB 2173 or amend the bill to remove greyhound racing. Greyhound racing is not only inhumane and results in the needless death of hundreds of dogs each year, it is not a financially sustainable business. The three Kansas racetracks that had greyhound racing all sustained massive losses and shut down, and revenue at dog tracks nationally declined more than 80% from 2001-2014. The public does not support dog racing and will not support businesses that allow it.

Greyhound racing attendance is dwindling nationwide as states pass laws ending or phasing out the sport and the public chooses not to participate in this cruel enterprise. Part of the decline of Greyhound racing can be attributed to the dramatic loss in profits: gaming facilities are losing money on these races, and state governments often wind up having to spend more to regulate the sport than they get back in revenue.

I want to thank each of you for your service and dedication to Kansas, and your consideration my request to remove greyhound racing from HB 2173 or to simply vote NO.

I am happy to answer any questions or provide any additional information that you may require.

Thank you,

Kate Meghji  
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