



**David T. Dennis**  
*Commissioner - Third District*

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS**

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The Honorable John Barker  
Chair, House Committee on Federal and State Affairs  
300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 346-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee,

My name is David Dennis, and I am a Sedgwick County Commissioner. I am writing today to let you know of my support for HB2173. The Bill will allow the citizens of Sedgwick County to vote on whether to allow electronic gaming machines at the Wichita Greyhound Park. Not only is that vote required, but a petition of not less than 5000 citizens must request the vote. Therefore, this is truly a bill that relies on the democratic process to be enacted in Sedgwick County, and I sincerely believe in the right of our citizens to petition our government and to ask for a vote on important issues.

If our citizens vote in favor, there could be great benefits to Sedgwick County. These include significant new employment, expansion of the tax base, and the resurrection of the greyhound facility. There will also be added revenues from the gaming tax to allow us to better serve the needs of Sedgwick County.

Opening the Wichita Greyhound Park will further stimulate northern Sedgwick County. Additional restaurants and hotels will be needed to service the visitors that would be coming to the area. This will further encourage the growth of the area and the County.

Finally, the passage of this Bill will mean millions of dollars in revenue for the State. This will take the form of gaming taxes, property taxes, sales taxes and income taxes. When the State is looking for ways to finance basic services, these revenues will be a welcome relief.

I encourage you to support the passage of HB2173 which will allow our citizens to make the decision, and I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Dennis  
Commissioner -- 3<sup>rd</sup> District

**Sedgwick County ... working for you**