

SEK Humane Society  
Mary Kay Caldwell  
President, SEK Humane Society

Feb. 13, 2018  
Re: HB 2545

Dear Representative Barker and Members of the Committee:

I am unable to attend the hearing today and offer this written testimony in opposition of HB 2545.

I have been involved with the Southeast Kansas Humane Society in Pittsburg for the past 40 years. During that time we received many, many greyhounds from the racing industry. All in need of care.

HB 2545 would reopen 3 tracks in Kansas bringing back the dog racing industry to Kansas. I would remind you that these tracks closed because the people of Kansas do not support greyhound racing. In fact the American public rejected greyhound racing and it is now illegal in 40 states.

Kansas is already in 2<sup>nd</sup> place for production of dogs from sub-standard breeding facilities and greyhound breeding will add to an already over-burdened shelter/rescue community. The racing industry promotes an overpopulation of dogs numbering in the thousands. No matter how hard the shelters and rescues try, they simply cannot save them all.

I would ask the committee to please remove the dogs from this bill. SEK Humane Society and shelters and rescues across our state cannot afford and should not be responsible for the burden of thousands of unwanted and abandoned greyhounds.

Please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,  
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