



To: Chairman Barker, House Fed & State

From: Nika Orebaugh, Board Member, Kansas Animal Control Association (KACA)

Date: March 12, 2020

RE: Oppose HB 2671

Chair Barker and members of the committee. My name is Nika Orebaugh. I am an the animal control supervising officer in Sedgwick County and a member of the Ks. Animal Control Association Board of Directors. I am writing today to express the boards strong opposition for HB 2671.

HB 2671 opens the door for greyhound racing to begin again in our state. Greyhound racing died out in Kansas because people didn't support it. Using sports wagering at the tracks and offering other incentives like electronic gaming simply hasn't worked in any state or anywhere. Florida was losing almost 40 million dollars per year until they banned greyhound racing in 2019, joining 40 other states.

Greyhound racing has been rejected by the majority of the American public including Kansans. Racing events lead to an unacceptable level of animal exploitation and suffering solely for profit. The industry promotes and tolerates the overproduction of dogs resulting in an annual surplus numbering in the *thousands*, many of whom end up being destroyed.

The last greyhound track in Kansas closed their doors in 2008, leaving behind hundreds of unwanted dogs that had to be helped by the rescues and shelters of our state. The burden of the greyhound racing industry cannot be shouldered by the shelter and rescue communities. I urge the committee to vote NO on HB 2671.

Sincerely,

Nika Orebaugh  
Member of the Board  
Ks Animal Control Association