



February 18,2021

Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today regarding HB 2199. My name is Midge Grinstead, and I am the Kansas State Director for The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). On behalf of our members, supporters and advocates in Kansas, we oppose House Bill 2199.

Greyhound racing is an inhumane activity that has been largely rejected by your constituents and the American public. They simply don't attend these races. Greyhound racing has economically failed everywhere. The decline in greyhound racing is due to increased public awareness that dog racing is cruel and inhumane. The general public does not approve of dogs being housed in small kennels for 20-23 hours per day, being fed raw 4D meat and being discarded when the industry is done with them.

HB 2199 will increase greyhound breeding and racing, and in turn increase suffering for dogs. As a past shelter director and current board member for the Kansas Animal Control Association, I can tell you that these animal welfare concerns not only impact greyhounds, but the state as well. Public and private agencies will be forced to absorb the costs of investigating related cruelty complaints, taking in dogs with injuries and illness for treatment, and rescue and adoption, as I have witnessed in the past.

HB 2199 will damage the reputation of our state and will put thousands of greyhounds at risk. We urge you to oppose this bill.

Thank you for your consideration today. I am happy to answer any questions you might have to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,  
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