

Hazel Keitel Dornschild
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RE: HB 2545 OPPONENT WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY
House Federal and State Affairs

Dear Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

I am writing you today to ask that you **OPPOSE HB 2545**, a bill that would bring greyhound racing back to Kansas.

My name is Hazel Keitel Dornschild and I'm a resident of Sedgwick County – where one of the three greyhound racing tracks is located.

I recently moved with my family from California to the state of Kansas. As a newcomer, I believe legalized greyhound racing would create an unsavory image of the people who call Kansas 'home,' including myself. Numerous abuse cases within greyhound racing have demonstrated some of the most inhumane and cruel treatment towards dogs imaginable. They are starved, beaten, neglected, refused veterinary care, constantly muzzled, and relegated to inadequate kennels for up to 20 hours per day. Many are injured and/or killed during a race, euthanized and then dumped, and/or sold into questionable practices once deemed, "too slow," or, "too old," to race anymore. I'm an active advocate against the dog meat trades of China and South Korea, where retired greyhounds from UK racetracks are often sold for their meat. Sadly, it's suspected retired racing dogs from the U.S. are sold into the Asian dog meat industry as well.

Because of these reports, audiences have declined dramatically, profits are non-existent, and owners are losing millions each year. Over half the greyhound racetracks in the U.S. are in Florida, which is at a \$30M annual loss. Communities are pushing reform to legalize the industry, with Floridians just passing one such amendment now headed for public hearings. Florida *knows* greyhound racing is a bad investment, and it's time for Kansans to listen.

I ask you to **OPPOSE HB 2545**. Please don't let greyhound racing return to our great state of Kansas.

Respectfully,

/s/ Hazel Keitel Dornschild
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