Testimony before the Senate Federal & State Affairs Committee SB 404 – relating to racing facilities

Feb. 16, 2022

Mike O'Neal – Kansas Greyhound Association

In-Person testimony in OPPOSITION as drafted

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Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee

My wife, Trish, and I represent the Kansas Greyhound Association, which stands in strong opposition to unnecessary and, hopefully, unintended provisions in SB 404 that would, if left in, cause irreparable damage to the greyhound industry and the proud heritage of this state as the Greyhound Capital and home of the Greyhound Hall of Fame. I'm here to introduce you to Jim Gartland, Executive Director of the National Greyhound Association in Abilene.

You also have written testimony from Michael Strickland, President of the Kansas Greyhound Association and third generation greyhound breeder from Abilene Ks. We ask that you please don't make any uninformed judgments about Kansas greyhounds until or unless you have had the opportunity to learn about greyhounds and tour one of their facilities. The welcome mat is always out. Trish & I have been there and believe me, if there were such a thing as reincarnation, I'd want to come back as a Kansas greyhound! There's a reason they're often referred to as 40 mph couch potatoes! They're the sweetest athletes you'll ever meet!