

Dear Chairman Ostmeyer and Members of the Federal and State Affairs Committee:

My husband and I live one mile south of Augusta, Ks. on HWY 77. We have devoted our entire life to the sport of Horse Racing. Our kids have devoted their lives to it as well.

When we passed the Senate Bill 66 in 2007 to allow gaming to come to the race tracks, Charley and I spent \$ 142,000 to upgrade our facilities. We made improvements to our Stallion facility to bring it up to par with industry leaders and built a more impressive barn. All our horses were Kansas Bred.

Due to the fact that this bill required a 40% state tax take-out for racing facilities, there was no incentive to open a casino/racing facility. We have since moved our Stallion to the state of Iowa. Our mares and foals are now Iowa and Oklahoma Bred.

We only get to stay home three months a year. The rest of the year is spent in surrounding states that support our industry. Just within the three families from my own home most of our fuel, cost of living, clothing, furniture, hay, bedding, and feed is purchased in other states.

Our business brings in about \$ 1,000,000. a year. A major portion of that amount goes to run it. That means most of that money goes to other states every year.

I'm not suggesting you do something that has not already been done. I'm suggesting you reduce the tax burden that halts the opening of The Woodlands. It isn't like you can't find a place to gamble. A place like The Woodlands puts so much more back into the community and state than just a casino ever will.

Thank You,

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