

Feb.13, 2018

Rep. John Barker
Chairman, House Federal and State Affairs Committee

Dear Chairman Barker:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of HB 2545 on behalf of Eureka Downs Training Center.

Eureka Downs always brought a source of revenue into Eureka, KS and the state. It provided at least 100 local part time jobs. When Kansas tracks closed, Eureka lost trainers, families, and students. The feed stores, vets, and farmers all lost money from horses leaving the state to race in neighboring states.

In 2014 myself and six others leased Eureka Downs from the Greenwood County Fair Board. Eureka Downs is important to us, it is part of our history. We have been operating as Eureka Downs Training Center. We have had trainers stabled at the grounds and various trainers pull in on the weekends to work their horses. Just last weekend we held timed works. We had eight horses haul in from Wichita and four horses from Missouri. All of the trainers keep asking, "When are you going to open this place back up and run?" Many of the trainers complain that there are so many horses running in Oklahoma that their horses are only getting to run in about two races a year. They want to come back to Kansas!!!

HB 2545 will bring nothing but an economic benefit to Kansas!!! Leveling the playing field for the horses and dogs is the only fair thing to do.

Thank you,

Stacy Randle
Eureka Downs Training Center