



March 22, 2022

Midge Grinstead – Neutral – HB 2740

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Representative Barker and Members of the Committee:

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, and advocates in Kansas, we stand neutral on HB 2740

HB 2740 will remove greyhounds from the Ks Expanded Lottery Act (KELA) and the Ks Parimutuel Racing Act (KPRA). This is important because 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. Kansas tracks suffered significant losses before the last one closed in August of 2008. Greyhound racing has economically failed everywhere.

Prior to 2012, greyhounds weren't considered dogs and not given the same protection as other pet animals. The treatment of greyhounds used in commercial racing was and is overseen by their own industry. They promote and tolerate an overproduction of dogs, resulting in an annual surplus numbering in the thousands, many of whom will end up being destroyed despite the best efforts of shelters and rescue groups.

There are currently only three states with operating tracks in the U.S. West Virginia, Iowa and Texas. There are 40 states that no longer allow or don't have provisions in their state to allow live commercial greyhound racing.

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, rescue and adoption, and picking up dead discarded bodies of dogs dumped when the racing industry is done with them, as I have witnessed in the past.

Thank you for your consideration today regarding HB 2740.

Sincerely,

Midge Grinstead

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Supporters for Greyhound Ban – SB 262

City of Arma – Animal Control - Arma
Animals With Our Love (AOL) - Independence
We are a Grateful Sanctuary (WAGS) – Bel Plaine
Emporia Animal Shelter - Emporia
Golden Belt Humane Society – Great Bend
Western Kansas Animal Alliance, Inc. – Hays
Heart of Jackson Humane Society – Holton
Humane Society of Greater Kansas City
KC RE-GAP – Greyhound Rescue Kansas City
Pawnee Co. Humane Society- Pawnee
Riley County Humane Society - Manhattan
Freeman Arabian Ranch and Rescue - Meriden
Always & Furever - Miami Co
Prairie Paws Animal Shelter - Ottawa
SEK Animal Advocates Grp – Pittsburg
Southeast Kansas Humane Society – Pittsburg
Helping Hands Humane Society – Topeka
Beauties & Beasts -Wichita
Pals Animal Rescue, Inc. – Wichita
Cowley County Humane Society – Winfield
Stray Dog Policy
Kansas Animal Control Association
Companion Animal Protection Society of Ks – Wichita
Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association (HSVMA)

Brown County Humane Society - Hiawatha
Allen County Animal Refuge Facility - Iola
CCARE – Clay Center
Humane Society of the Flint Hills - Emporia
Humane Society of the High Plains - Hays
Western Plains Animal Refuge - Hays
Hutchinson Animal Shelter
Pawsitive Tails - KC
Kingman County Humane Society
Leavenworth Co. Humane Society
Russel T. Reitz Animal Shelter - Manhattan
Great Plains SPCA - Merriam
SRL – All Breed Dog Rescue - Minneapolis
Proud Animal Lovers (PALS) – Parsons
Olive’s Hope - Pleasanton
Keller K9 ResQ - Quinter
Wellington Humane Society
Companion Animal Protection Society Wichita
Wichita Animal Action League
HEARTland Positive Dog Training Alliance – KC
Humane Society Legislative Fund of Kansas
Humane Society of the United States