

3/22/22

Jasmine Kyle – Director SEK HS

Neutral written testimony – HB 2740

To: Chair Barker Senator Alley and Members of the Committee

From: Jasmine Kyle, Director of the Southeast Kansas Humane Society

Re: Testimony as a neutral on HB 2740

Date: March 22, 2022

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Jasmine Kyle, the Director of the Southeast Kansas Humane Society. I am speaking on behalf of our organization and a coalition of animal welfare supporters in southeast Kansas who stand neutral on HB 2740.

Our organization does not have any position on sports wagering until such legislation permits wagering on greyhound racing.

This is not only a cruel inhumane activity but a very unprofitable one. The majority of Kansans have made it abundantly clear that dog racing is not wanted in our state by not supporting it with their wallets.

Drug use is another hallmark of this industry. Before Florida banned greyhound racing in 2019, there had been 419 Greyhound drug positive tests in Florida, including 68 that were positive for cocaine. Greyhounds have also been found with pain killers and opiates such as Novocain and oxycodone in their systems. Females are routinely given anabolic steroids to build muscle and prevent loss of race days during their heat cycles, a practice which triggers both animal-health and race-fixing concerns.

The racing industry exacerbates an overproduction of these dogs, which simply displaces other homeless animals and diverts resources needed to address these challenges. **With so many animal shelters holding on by threads due to COVID-19, the return of Greyhound racing would be disastrous for our state.** Most of our supporters and community's voices are for protecting greyhounds in our entire state.

We ask that you make sure sports wagering does not include greyhound racing in the state of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Kyle

Director of the Southeast Kansas Humane Society

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