



To: Chairman Barker, House Fed & State

From: Kansas Animal Control Association (KACA)

Date: February 18, 2021

RE: Oppose HB 2199

Chair Barker and members of the committee. My name is Nika Orebaugh. I am the treasurer of the Ks. Animal Control Association Board of Directors. I am writing today to express the board's strong opposition for HB 2199.

HB 2199 opens the door for greyhound racing to begin again in our state. Greyhound racing died out in Kansas because people did not support it. Using sports wagering at the tracks and offering other incentives like electronic gaming simply has not worked in any state or anywhere. Florida was losing approximately 40 million dollars per year until they banned greyhound racing in 2019, joining 40 other states.

The majority of the American people including Kansans have rejected greyhound racing. Racing events lead to an unacceptable level of animal exploitation and suffering solely for profit. The industry promotes and tolerates the overproduction of dogs resulting in an annual surplus numbering in the *thousands*, many of whom end up destroyed.

The last greyhound track in Kansas closed their doors in 2008, leaving behind hundreds of unwanted dogs that had to be taken in by the rescues and shelters of our state. The shelter and rescue communities cannot shoulder the burden of the dying greyhound racing industry again and it is not prudent to ask already tightly budgeted animal control agencies to pick up the remainder. I urge the committee to vote NO on HB 2199.

Sincerely,

Member of the Board
Ks Animal Control Association