

As the Director of the Josephine County Fairgrounds, I'd like to say that we have been significantly impacted by horse racing in a positive way. Not only has horse racing been a part of our County's Fairgrounds history, with the recent formation of Grants Pass Downs, horse racing is also a part of our Fairgrounds future. The lease of Fairgrounds property provides nearly \$300,000 annually of much needed revenue to the Fairgrounds. In addition, we've seen improvements of the racetrack and supporting facilities improving the overall functionality of these areas and aesthetic to the community. The construction of the Flying Lark facility will function as a community-gathering site and an economic driver that will attract visitors to the restaurant and provide economic development to the county. These new facilities are a sense of pride for the community and help secure our fairgrounds as a Southern Oregon attraction, which benefits the entire hospitality industry of Grants Pass. A thriving horse racing industry in Grants Pass means jobs for our county that includes breeders, trainers, jockeys, racetrack personnel and farmers providing feedstock all positively impacting our local economy. Please support Senate Bill 165 and the horse racing industry.