

March 13, 2023

Dear Esteemed Members of the Oregon Gambling Committee,

On behalf of the National Greyhound Association, I am writing in opposition of HB3514. The National Greyhound Association is the official registry for greyhound racing in the United States. Our members are held to our bylaws, as well as our care and welfare standards.

In today's ever changing global climate, what impacts racing in other countries, reverberates in our own industry. Banning wagering on international races directly impacts our members as well as the ADW and OTB wagering companies doing lawful business in Oregon. According to the Oregon Racing Commission, Oregon based companies handled \$104,984,559 wagered on greyhound racing worldwide.

Some of the focus has recently been on racing in Australia. Australian greyhound racing has captured a large portion of their entertainment dollar and they are making dynamic, bold moves that are exciting to the modern gambler.

Greyhound racing is not only overseen, but actually orchestrated, developed and administered by the Australian government, much like the lottery is handled in the United States. It is highly regulated both on a national level and by individual state jurisdictions.

Greyhound Australia is the organization that collaborates with each racing jurisdiction state to ensure consistent care and racing integrity. You can review their mission statement at:

<https://galtd.org.au/about-us/>

Greyhound Australia recent underwent rule changes (occurred in 2021)

<https://galtd.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/GA-Rules-Rework-National-Rule-Changes-Report.pdf>

To summarize, their objectives with these rule changes were to:

- promote, enhance, and protect the welfare of greyhounds.
- regulate greyhound racing so that public confidence in its integrity is upheld.
- provide for a level playing field and greater transparency in greyhound racing.
- record the rules which, together with the Local Rules of Controlling Bodies, regulate greyhound racing in Australia and New Zealand; and
- promote the long term viability of greyhound racing and the conduct of it in a socially responsible manner.

Here is a copy of their most up to date rules handbook, that encompasses the above changes:

<https://galtd.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Greyhounds-Australasia-Rules-Effective-1-May-2022..pdf>

I very much appreciated seeing Victoria's (Australia) requirement of having an Establishment Health Management Plan for each of their farms/facilities. Owning a boarding facility and a restaurant in Seattle, we are required to have a LOT of plans on file & continued education/credentials with King County & Washington State. I believe that these requirements promote best business practices and a commitment to safety and excellence, so it was nice to see these progressive standards being formally implemented within their racing industry. The Victorian Code of Practice can be found at

<https://greyhoundcare.grv.org.au/code-of-practice/>

The template for their EHMP can be found here: <https://greyhoundcare.grv.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Protocol-Template-interactive-PDF-August-2019.pdf>

As an advocate for “racing done right,” and as a Board member for the National Greyhound Association, I’m very much impressed by the standards of care that has been developed for the racing greyhounds in Australia. They completely address greyhound welfare from birth to racing to end of life care. I applaud Australia for making necessary and progressive changes to achieve excellent, regulated care and adhere to the social pressures that are expected today.

I respectfully ask you reconsider the language in HB3514, limiting greyhound wagering on international races, restricting Oregon based wagering businesses from a global economy.

Leslie Csokasy  
National Greyhound Association, Director District 3B