

Submitter: Sheryl and Paul LEWIS
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB3214

I strongly oppose this bill. This would ban all 4H, FFA and individuals from exhibiting their animals. These programs instill responsible care of their animals. For many children and young adults preparing and participating in events this keeps them focused in many different ways. They probably have more compassion for animals that transforms to their compassion towards humans as well. The animals are seen regularly by vets and will not be able to go to shows if they are known to be sick. I am also an equestrian and have in the past participating in activities at a show. They have many hours of training in the events that they participate in and have their trainers available during training and at events. They have to have all immunizations and have proper testing to participate in shows. For these exhibitors it is so much more than just winning their events but also the safety of their animals. As for adults that are participating in events it is the same, they are also very proud of the breed they are showing and what they can do. Participants of all ages come from all many backgrounds whether it be country or city, all types of employment. Many do this for the fun of it and meeting people from all walks of life; and they don't do it for monetary reasons. Many of these young people that participate in showing of animals will consider becoming a veterinarian or vet tech, animal rights advocates, or work for the breed industry of these animals. Where will this stop? Will I not be able to take my horses for trail rides or camping? Will I not be able to transport my animals to another location? Is it events that don't care about their animals, then instead of stopping good programs go after the programs that are causing issues. We need to keep good programs for everyone to participate in.