

Submitter: Karen Verney

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3020

As the owner of a former racing greyhound, from Florida, I can tell you, these dogs suffer. Our Lucy was 2 when she broke her foot in a race. It was never treated or set, and now, at the age of 9, she suffers to put weight on it. She had no idea how to function in a house, had never slept on a dog bed, never played with toys, nor had she ever had her own bowl of food. She had major health complications coming from, what was supposed to be a regulated track, including worms so bad she had to be on medication for 6 months. Looking into the history of the track where she was kept it was well documented that the dogs there were given cocaine and caffeine ahead of races. They were fined numerous times and never changed their ways.

I often say that our dog is half cat, half statue, she is scared of many things, and it has taken YEARS to build her confidence. A clear side affect of the abuse she endured during her racing years. And she was one of the lucky ones who got out with minimal races, no puppies, and minimal scars on her legs.

These dogs deserve so much better. Allowing people to gamble on races in places where there are fewer, or no rights/regulations for the dogs is criminal. Let's stand up for the noble greyhound and bring them inside from the track.