



HUMANE VOTERS | OREGON

Testimony of Humane Voters Oregon on House Bill 3020
House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

January 28, 2025

Chair Sosa, Vice Chairs Chaichi and Osborne, and Members of the Committee:

Humane Voters Oregon is a nonprofit organization that works in Oregon's political process and elections to promote the humane treatment of animals. We are not affiliated with any other state or national organization.

Humane Voters Oregon supports House Bill 3020.

House Bill 3020 would change Oregon law to say: "No person may wager money or any other thing of value on the outcome of a greyhound race or other dog race, or accept or facilitate such wagering, regardless of the location at which the race takes place." (Section 2.)

The reason for HB 3020 is simple: dog racing is cruel and gambling on dog racing leads to more dog racing. The dogs used for dog racing endure long periods of intense confinement, physical abuse, doping and injuries on the track. Because of this, 43 states have banned it. Oregon finally did that in 2022. (SB 1504.)

However, Oregon has a complex system of state-sanctioned gambling on animal races, through the Oregon Racing Commission, which has made Oregon a major hub for betting on animal races all over the world, including dog races. See N. Jaquiss, [Lawmakers Grapple With Oregon's Enabling Animal Cruelty in Greyhound Racing](#), Willamette Week (Feb. 14, 2024). Although Oregon has banned dog racing here, it continues to enable the cruel business in other locations by facilitating gambling on dog races. That should stop.

The only arguments against HB 3020 are that some businesses make money by accepting bets on dog races and some people enjoy betting on dog races as a social activity. However, those interests do not justify the animal suffering that results from the dog racing that the gambling enables.

Thank you for considering our comments.

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