

To:The Oregon Legislative AssemblySubject:Public Testimony in support of House Bill 3020From:Voices of Problem Gambling RecoveryDate:January 28th, 2025

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly,

Greyhound racing is illegal in 43 states and now exists at only two tracks in West Virginia, where it is heavily subsidized.

We, the board of Voices of Problem Gambling Recovery, wish to **express our strong support for House Bill 3020**, which aims to end greyhound racing data in Advanced Deposit Wagering (ADW) hub systems. This bill is a significant step towards addressing the harmful impacts of gambling and promoting the health and well-being of Oregonians.

Oregon is one of only two states that licenses Advanced Deposit Wagering (ADW) companies, which accept millions of dollars in internet bets on dog races held around the world. The majority of all internet bets made nationwide on dog races are processed through the Oregon hub system. This involvement undermines the 2022 legislative decision to prohibit greyhound racing due to animal welfare concerns, which led to the closure of the last operational track, Multnomah Greyhound Park in 2004.

House Bill 3020, filed at the request of Governor Tina Kotek for the Oregon Racing Commission, will prohibit gambling on dog races, including the processing of ADW wagers. Ending Oregon's involvement in greyhound racing will not have an impact on horse racing or other activities, as only 1.3% of all ADW gambling in 2023 was on dog races.

In conclusion, we urge you to support House Bill 3020 and take a stand against archaic and harmful gambling practices. Together, we can create a safer and healthier environment for all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

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Brian Ward, CGRM, IGRS, BARA President - Voices of Problem Gambling Recovery Board of Directors Info@vpgr.net