

COURTNEY NERON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 26



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Testimony in Support of HB 3020

January 31, 2025

Chair Sosa, Co-Chairs Chaichi and Osborne, and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protections,

I write to express my **strong support for HB 3020**, a critically needed bill to put an end to Oregon's role in the inhumane greyhound racing industry once and for all.

Despite public sentiment and policies passed, our state is still known as the "Oregon Hub" where people everywhere can bet on races taking place in other states and around the globe. In 2023 alone the Oregon Hub Oregon processed over \$83 million in Advanced Deposit Wagering (ADW) bets. Greyhound racing accounted for only 1.3% of total ADW revenue in Oregon, which amounted to **only \$72,547 in revenue**. This simply isn't worth it, but frankly, no revenue generated from this industry would be worth it.

Public opinion is clear: Oregon voters overwhelmingly oppose gambling on greyhound racing. Dogs are repeatedly found with performance enhancing drugs in their systems, abused, neglected, trained with live bait, and experience high rates of injury and death in this industry. In 2023 alone, **10,542 greyhound injuries and deaths were reported at tracks using the Oregon online betting system**. The industry's continued operations, through our online gambling systems, run counter to the values of animal welfare that Oregonians hold dear.

HB3020 is a vital step toward aligning Oregon's laws with public sentiment and ethical standards. The greyhound racing industry is not only a dying and **unsustainable source of revenue** but is also **fundamentally inhumane**. With this bill, we have the opportunity to ensure that our state is no longer complicit in the mistreatment of greyhounds, as well as protect the integrity of gambling regulations.

I urge you to stand up against animal cruelty and pass HB3020.

Sincerely,

Representative Courtney Neron
House District 26
Wilsonville, King City, Sherwood, Tigard