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Submitted by: Christine A. Dorchak, Esq.

President, GREY2K USA

In reference to: HB 2765, Greyhound Protection Act

Presented to: Paul Holvey, Chair and All Members

House Committee on Business and Labor

Date: February 6, 2015

On behalf of GREY2K USA, the nation's largest greyhound protection organization, we ask for your support of HB 2765 which will bring Oregon in concert with the overwhelming majority of states that have prohibited dog racing. This humane and progressive measure is sponsored by Committee Member Shemia Fagan, co-sponsored by Vice Chair Bill Kennemer, and has garnered bi-partisan support.

Across the country, greyhound racing has been shown to be cruel and inhumane. Racing dogs are kept confined in small, stacked cages for long hours each day. When let out to race, they suffer serious injuries, including broken legs and backs, seizures, paralysis and head trauma. Greyhound electrocutions have also been reported.

This Depression-era experiment not only costs dogs their lives, but is now a money loser for host states. Florida loses over \$3 million a year on dog racing, and the state of Arizona subsidizes Tucson Greyhound Park with annual tax breaks of nearly \$4 million. Oregon can avoid this budgetary nightmare by prohibiting dog racing within its borders.

Finally, HB 2765 is revenue neutral. The last dog race was held at Multnomah Greyhound Park on Christmas Eve over ten years ago, so no jobs are at risk. We support those in the local community who are now calling for the 31-acre property to be re-purposed to better serve area needs.

Greyhound racing is a relic of the past and is now illegal in thirty-nine states. Please approve HB 2765 today and make Oregon the fortieth state to turn the page on this cruel and wasteful activity.