

Submitter: Cathy Hopper
On Behalf Of: Oregon Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders
Assoc.
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1524

I am writing in strong support of SB 1524. Oregon's horse racing industry is already operating on limited resources, and the loss of Greyhound wagering will remove a major source of revenue that supports race days, purses, and breeder/owner incentives. This bill is essential to stabilizing the industry and protecting the many rural jobs and agricultural businesses that depend on it. I respectfully urge the committee to move SB 1524 forward.

In addition, horse racing in Oregon also sustains equine activities throughout the state. Horses bred for racing also contribute to the horses used for personal and equine sport activities. Many equine professionals base their businesses not only on horse racing but also boarding and training - racing and non-racing. If horse racing is diminished, it will impact these businesses and also the economies downstream that support these businesses, e.g. farm & feed stores, tack shops and hay/crop growing.