



Dear Members of the Business Affairs and Labor Committee,

Re: HB23-1041

I am writing to express my strong support of HB23-1041.

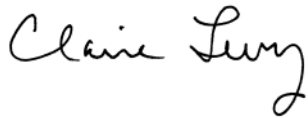
While some note my status as a former State Representative as a notable aspect of my biography, I prefer to be known as a devoted greyhound guardian. I now have the good fortune to love my third greyhound. Two of my three greyhounds were retired greyhounds from tracks in Alabama and Florida. None of my greyhounds raced in Colorado because we had the good sense to end greyhound racing in 2014. (I believe my successor in HD13, K.C. Becker, sponsored the bill at my request.)

Having recognized the cruelty of greyhound racing, it seems to me to be completely immoral to allow Colorado residents to gamble on greyhound racing and for the State of Colorado to receive revenue from the practice as paltry as that revenue might be.

While the State of Colorado doesn't receive much benefit from this practice, the gambling industry is making good money – to the tune of \$3.9 million dollars – and Colorado residents are wagering as much as \$20 million. Colorado law should not allow an industry to profit from a practice that is all but extinct in the United States because of its cruelty. Nor should Colorado residents be allowed to gamble on it. It is the same as banning dog fights and cock fights yet allowing people to invest and keep the practice alive elsewhere.

I urge your support of this bi-partisan measure. It completes the work that I wasn't able to complete when I retired from the House in 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Claire Levy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Claire Levy



Dear Madame Chair and Members of the Business Affairs and Labor Committee,

My name is Rachel Heatley and I am the Director of Advocacy at the Dumb Friends League. The Dumb Friends League is one of the oldest and largest organizations in our region. We operate three animal shelters and an equine center here in Colorado as well as a state-of-the-art veterinary hospital on the CSU Spur campus. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to share the League's strong support for HB23-1041 to Prohibit Wagering on Simulcast Greyhound Races.

Colorado banned greyhound racing in 2014 because Coloradans no longer wanted to support this outdated industry. Simulcasting greyhound races from outside of Colorado inside our state continues to support an industry that Coloradans rejected nearly a decade ago. In our view, HB23-1041 is simply a clean-up bill to finish the work started with the 2014 ban.

We urge you to vote in favor of HB23-1041. We appreciate your time and attention to this important issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Rachel Heatley, Esq.

Director of Advocacy, Dumb Friends League

Direct: 720-241-7101

Mobile: 720-772-0781