

- HB 5174 removes from statute the 1976 authorization for live greyhound racing, an activity that no longer occurs in Connecticut. The bill has no effect on live horse racing or simulcast wagering of any kind.
- Connecticut racetracks have already voluntarily ended dog racing. However, unless the law is changed, dog racing could come back at any time without scrutiny.
- Commercial dog racing is now illegal in 41 states. Connecticut remains only one of nine states in which dog racing is still allowed and is viewed as fertile ground and an open door for the return of racing.



[DOG RACING IS A MONEY LOSER FOR THE STATE AND RACETRACKS](#)

- Across the country, greyhound racing is dying. Since 2001, forty-four dog tracks have closed, with three more facilities in two states winding down now. It is prohibited in all of the New England states.
- Any remaining states with dog racing are losing money on the activity because regulatory costs far exceed any tax revenues generated.

[GREYHOUND RACING IS CRUEL AND INHUMANE](#)

- At commercial racetracks, greyhounds endure lives of extreme confinement and are fed a diet based on raw “4-D” diseased meat. At each facility, hundreds of dogs are kept in warehouse style kennels, in cages which are barely large enough for them to stand up or turn around. Greyhounds have tested cocaine-positive at kennels throughout the country.
- Greyhounds are frequently injured while racing. Dogs routinely suffer broken legs and other serious injuries. A racing dog dies every ten days in West Virginia.
- Young greyhounds are traditionally trained with live lures, resulting in the death by mutilation of rabbits in the key breeding states of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Along with drugging, this is another common form of race fixing.

[GREYHOUND RACING GOES AGAINST MAINSTREAM VALUES](#)

- Connecticut has a long history of leadership on humane issues, and commercial greyhound racing offends these important community values.
- In the present day, dog racing licensees represent a parasite on other forms of gambling and divert funds needed by host states themselves. Before prohibiting dog racing, Rhode Island taxpayers were subsidizing greyhound breeders with over \$10 million in slot machine profits. Similarly, Arkansas currently diverts \$28 million of its annual casino profits and Florida track owners were losing \$34 million per annum by propping a dying industry. West Virginia provides an annual \$17 million incentive for the industry. Connecticut can avoid this dilemma.