

Decouple Live Greyhound Racing

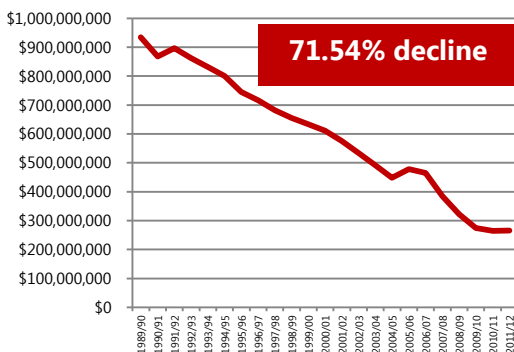
- Greyhound racing is a dying industry, and now exists in only seven states. A majority (13 of 22) of all operational greyhound tracks in the United States are in Florida. In Florida, the amount gambled on live dog racing declined by 63% between 2002 and 2012.
- Public opposition to greyhound racing is increasing due to humane concerns such as confinement and injuries. At Florida tracks, thousands of greyhounds are kept inside warehouse-style kennels, in small cages barely large enough for the dogs to stand up or turn around. Additionally, since 2004 state investigators have documented at least nine cases of severe neglect at Florida dog tracks and associated kennel compounds.
- The mandatory racing requirement forces greyhound tracks to offer live greyhound racing as a “loss leader” for other, more viable forms of gambling. This comes at a significant cost to both taxpayers and track operators, and conflicts with free market principles.
- Decoupling is not about whether greyhound racing should or should not be legal in Florida, but whether the state should force a business to conduct one activity so that it may offer another. This legislation does not expand gambling in any way.
- Since 1990 the amount of taxes collected by the state for live greyhound racing has declined by more than 97% from more than \$75 million in 1990 to less than \$1.7 million in 2011. In the same year, the state spent \$1.88 million on the regulation of live dog racing. Because regulatory costs now exceed the tax revenue from live racing, Florida is losing money on greyhound races.



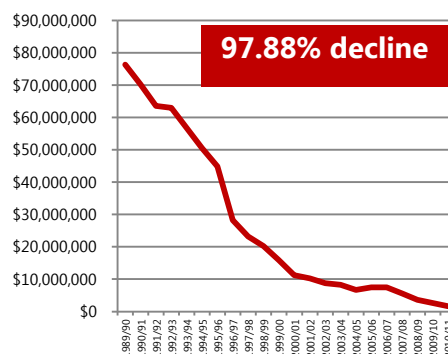
Sweetie Pie of FL

Wagers and taxes collected from greyhound racing in Florida have dramatically declined from 1990 to 2011, yet state mandates require the number of live performances to remain steady.

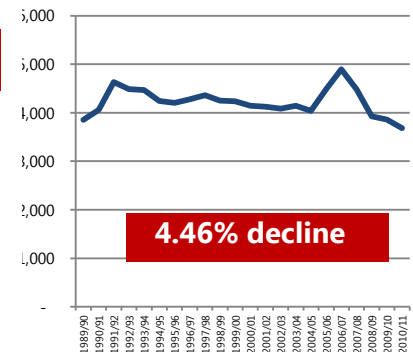
Total Regular Handle, 1990-2012



Taxes and Fees Collected on Live Racing, 1990 - 2011



Total Live Performances, 1990-2011



Source: Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering