Honor the will of the voters

• In 2008, Massachusetts citizens overwhelmingly voted 56% - 44% to stop all forms of gambling on dog races. Question 3 was approved by nearly 290 cities and towns from one end of the state to the other.
• Question 3 prohibited all betting on dog races, whether live or simulcast. Specifically, it stated that “no dog racing or racing meeting where any form of betting or wagering on the speed or ability of dogs occurs shall be conducted or permitted in this commonwealth.”

S. 177 will end eleven years of extensions on greyhound racing

• This humane measure will phase out greyhound racing once and for all.
• Greyhound simulcast wagering allows Massachusetts citizens to bet on dog races taking place elsewhere via closed-circuit television.
• The majority of money “in the simulcast pot” is returned to winning bettors. According to the Massachusetts Gaming Commission, there is no pari-mutuel tax paid to the General Fund.

Dog racing is not popular in the USA

• Greyhound racing is illegal in 41 states and is now ending without legislation in others. A 2018 voter-approved prohibition took effect in Florida, closing 12 tracks in the very home of dog racing.
• Arkansas and Iowa have publicly announced phase-outs by 2022. West Virginia, with two failing tracks, remains the only jurisdiction to embrace the activity.
• With the collapse of American dog racing, local tracks have begun taking bets on races in Mexico. The Agua Caliente track is owned by a known wildlife trafficker who also maintains a private zoo and bull ring on track property. There are no humane protections for dogs whatsoever at his facility.

Greyhound racing is cruel and inhumane

• Racing greyhounds endure lives of confinement and many suffer serious injuries. Dogs are electrocuted, suffer head injuries, broken backs and paralysis. A broken leg can be a death sentence because the cost of rehabilitation outweighs a dog's value for racing.
• A 2020 investigation revealed a multi-state conspiracy of cruelty in which rabbits are chased and mauled to death as part of standard training practices for greyhounds. Live lure training is illegal as a matter of state and federal anti-cruelty law, yet it continues unpunished in the dog racing industry.
• As a state, we voted against this cruelty.
This is a focused measure

• S. 177 has no effect on horse racing and no jobs will be lost as a result of this clarification. There are no “dog racing simulcast workers” versus “horse racing simulcast workers.”

• **Since 2008, the amount of money wagered on simulcast greyhound races has been decimated** and will undoubtedly continue to plummet as dog tracks continue to phase out their live operations.

• As of 2020, 75% of simulcast wagers are made on horse races and not on dog races.

*data provided by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission in response to official public information requests.