



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Legislators contemplate bill that would create 4,475 new Kansas jobs

Legislation creates tax parity between privately owned race-tracks and state-owned casinos.

Topeka, Kansas – Kansas lawmakers began discussions this week on legislation that would reignite a key agriculture, tourism and entertainment sector of the Kansas economy. A hearing was held in the House Appropriations Committee on HB 2537 which would lower the state tax rate on electronic gaming machines at pari-mutuel racing tracks from 40% to 22% - the tax rate equal to and enjoyed by state-owned casinos. The second key component of the bill allows the citizens of Wichita the opportunity to vote on whether to re-open the Wichita Greyhound Park.

Lawmakers recently held an informational hearing in the House Commerce Committee on the economic benefits to the State of Kansas of a re-invigorated pari-mutuel racing industry. According to a recent economic impact study by Dr. Arthur P. Hall, the four racetracks in Kansas – The Woodlands in Kansas City; Wichita Greyhound Park in Wichita; Camptown Racetrack in Frontenac and Eureka Downs in Eureka, would create approximately 4,475 jobs; generate an estimated \$23 million in state and local taxes and spur \$191 million in new employee wages. No state or local tax incentives are being requested to advance the project. The project is entirely supported by a local private business developer and investor.

The Greater Kansas Racing Alliance urges supporters of the horse and greyhound racing industry, farmers, ranchers and all Kansans who participate in the ag economy or would like to see new privately funded, prime entertainment venues re-open in Kansas, to call their legislators and encourage them to support legislation that puts Kansas back in the winner's circle by creating new jobs and investment.

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About the Greater Kansas Racing Alliance & Race for Kansas

The Greater Kansas Racing Alliance is comprised of farmers, ranchers, Kansas businesses and trade associations who believe in Kansas agriculture, Kansas communities and in ensuring Kansans have the opportunity to excel in a free market economy. The Alliance has come together to support the advancement of pari-mutuel racing tracks in Kansas. *Race for Kansas*, an initiative of the Greater Kansas Racing Alliance, supports legislation that will create 4,475 jobs across Kansas while expanding tourism and entertainment opportunities and generating significant new investments across Kansas.

Visit www.RaceForKansas.com to learn more.

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