



GLOBAL GREYHOUND COALITION

September 8, 2021

The Hon. Jerrold Nadler
Judiciary Committee Chairman
2132 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Nadler,

On behalf of our members across the globe, we encourage you to support proposed legislation to outlaw commercial greyhound racing in the United States. Dog racing was first introduced in Emeryville, California in 1919 and at one point there were more than sixty American tracks. Happily, only four American dog tracks remain today. Following this positive shift, the proposed U.S. Greyhound Protection Act looks to ensure that dog racing will never return again. As the Judiciary Committee reviews the specific bill language, we hope that you will signal your support for its main objectives of banning live racing and also blocking any betting or wagering on simulcast races, particularly those broadcast from foreign jurisdictions. This will prevent American gambling dollars from propping up the cruelty of dog racing in countries with few or no humane protections.

The sad plight of gentle hounds used in foreign races is well established. In Ireland, a recent investigative report revealed that nearly 6,000 greyhounds are killed each year. RTÉ also highlighted the merciless disposal of unwanted greyhounds at knackeries and slaughterhouses, the routine drugging of dogs to fix races, and the mounting number of track injuries and deaths. Each year, Ireland also exports thousands of greyhounds to the United Kingdom, where it is permissible to kill dogs on pure economic grounds or simply because an industry participant declares an ex-racer “unsuitable for homing.”

In Australia, a 2015 Greyhounds Australasia report revealed that the Australian industry is responsible for the unnecessary deaths of 13,000 to 17,000 healthy greyhounds each year. The same grim fate awaits racing dogs in New Zealand, where data from the industry group Greyhound Racing NZ, confirms that at least 937 greyhounds were killed between 2017 and 2020. There are absolutely no animal welfare protections in place for dogs in Mexico or Vietnam, and advocates there cannot even learn how many greyhounds are dying each year. There is no drug testing, no injury reporting, and worst of all, no adoption programs at all.

In our countries, another key problem is the over-breeding of greyhounds. Many unwanted pups are destroyed. Others are abandoned, leaving nonprofit organizations to pick up the pieces. Greyhounds also continue to be subjected to live baiting or “blooding,” a practice in which small animals are chased



and killed to train young hounds for racing. In addition to the recent revelation that live baiting is still occurring in the United States, this gruesome activity is known to be an industry standard in Ireland and Australia. We particularly commend the proposed legislation for prohibiting live baiting, and especially urge you to support this important provision.

In closing, we hope that you will lend your voice in support of the Greyhound Protection Act. At this time, attempts are underway by foreign racetracks to capture the U.S. market and simulcast wagers are already being made on races taking place in Australia, Ireland, Mexico and the United Kingdom. This timely measure will stop all such gambling and strengthen the ability of humane organizations across the world, to save greyhounds from the cruelty of racing.

Under your leadership, the US Congress has banned dogfighting, cockfighting, the dog meat trade, and has also taken important steps to help horses. We hope that the issue of dog racing will now take center stage.

Thank you for your outstanding work for animal welfare.

Sincerely,



Albano Martins, Honorary Life President
Anima Macau
MACAU



The Hon. Mark Pearson MLC
Animal Justice Party
AUSTRALIA



Chay Neal, Executive Director
Animal Liberation Queensland
AUSTRALIA



Jill Robinson, Founder
Paula Burton, US Executive Director
Animals Asia
HONG KONG



Glenys Oogjes, Chief Executive Officer
Animals Australia
AUSTRALIA



Vanda Babič, President
Association For Sighthounds Slovenia
SLOVENIA



Dr. S. Chinny Krishna, Co-founder and Chairman
Emeritus
Sathya Radhakrishnan, Honorary Joint Secretary
Blue Cross of India
INDIA



Varda Mehrotra, Executive Director
Federation of Indian Animal
Protection Organisations
INDIA



Emma Butler, Head of Welfare Campaigns
Forever Hounds Trust
UNITED KINGDOM



Jackson Zee, Head of South East Asia
Four Paws International
AUSTRIA



Alanna Christiansen, President
Free the Hounds
AUSTRALIA



Victoria Lyon, Trustee
Galway SPCA
IRELAND



Toni Donnelly, Chairperson
Greyhound Adoptions WA
AUSTRALIA



Katie Corcoran, Co-Founder
Greyhound Awareness Cork
IRELAND



Dean Bush, Director
Greyhound Welfare South Africa
SOUTH AFRICA



Dr. Moe Kaur, Founder
Greyhounds, Many Nations, One Voice
UNITED KINGDOM



Hervé Marysael, President
Greyhounds Rescue Belgium
BELGIUM



Trudy Baker, Founder
Greyt Exploitations
UNITED KINGDOM



John Morgan, Secretary and Treasurer
Greyt Greys Rescue
AUSTRALIA



SonJa Trica, President
Honey
CROATIA



Vanessa Waddon, Founder
Hope Rescue
UNITED KINGDOM



Alan Knight, CEO
International Animal Rescue
UNITED KINGDOM



Massimo Pradella, Chairman
International Organization for Animal Protection
ITALY



Aideen Yourell, Campaign Director
Irish Council Against Blood Sports
IRELAND



Bronwen Catton, Trustee and Homing Officer
Kerry Greyhounds
UNITED KINGDOM



Fran Chambers, President
Let Greyhounds Run Free Inc.
AUSTRALIA



Marion Fitzgibbon, Founder
Limerick Animal Welfare
IRELAND



Stefania Traini, President
Pet Levrieri
ITALY



Debra Ashton, CEO
SAFE For Animals
NEW ZEALAND



Gill Donn, Founder
Say No to Greyhound Racing in Scotland
UNITED KINGDOM



Dr. Rosemary Elliott, President
Sentient
AUSTRALIA



Fiona Woodhouse, Deputy Director for Welfare
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Hong Kong
HONG KONG