



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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CHERYL COAKLEY-RIVERA
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
10TH HAMPDEN DISTRICT

Chairwoman
Committee on Labor and Workforce
Development

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September 9, 2009

Representative Brian S. Dempsey
Chairman
Joint Committee on Economic Development
and Emerging Technologies
State House, Room 42
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Karen Spilka
Chairwoman
Joint Committee on Economic Development
and Emerging Technologies
State House, Room 511-C
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman Dempsey and Chairwoman Spilka:

I understand that Senate 2041, An Act Relative to Greyhound Racing, is scheduled to be heard by your Committee tomorrow, September 10th. I write to express my opposition to this legislation.

As both a dog owner and as a person who actively campaigned for the passage of the Greyhound Protection Act, I strongly oppose Senate 2041, which seeks a two-year postponement of the January 1, 2010 deadline that bans dog racing. The question as to whether or not our Commonwealth should support dog racing has been emphatically decided by the people of nearly 290 cities and towns who voted in support of Question 3 to phase out dog racing by January 1, 2010. We must stop trying to delay the enactment of this ban and move on to the next stage – working together toward a responsible transition.

I strongly urge you not to pass Senate 2041 and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheryl Coakley-Rivera".
Representative Cheryl Coakley-Rivera
Chairwoman

Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development