

13011 W. Highway 42, Suite 107 Prospect, KY 40059, USA Office: (502) 292-1075 Fax: (502) 292-1076

March 14, 2025

Subject: Letter in Opposition to Senate Bill 2384

Dear Members of the North Dakota Legislature,

AmWest Entertainment, LLC has been processing pari-mutuel wagers on horse and greyhound racing for over twenty-one years. We are the largest independent Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) company in the North American market. Originally, we were an operator of off-track betting facilities and shifted to online wagering (www.AmWager.com) as customer and market preferences changed.

Proudly, in 2024 we received licensure from the North Dakota Racing Commission as an ADW to accept wagers from residents from inside and outside the State of North Dakota on horse and greyhound racing.

We are writing in opposition to SB2384.

<u>SB2384</u>

Regardless of where the customer lives, an ADW customer's wagers are considered North Dakota wagers. SB2384 intends to ban wagering on Greyhound racing by all our customers and all residents of North Dakota. While there are only two remaining greyhound tracks in the US that operate live racing, there are many tracks worldwide that offer the sport. Our clientele enjoys the sport of greyhound racing and wagering on it. On any given day, over 10% of our wagering is done on greyhound racing. Many of our customers wager on greyhound racing exclusively, and another significant portion of our customer base makes most of their wagers on greyhound races and a much smaller amount on horse racing.

Even though there is no live greyhound racing in North Dakota, wagering on the sport of greyhound racing supports live horse racing in the state. The fees in which all ADW operators pay go to support horse racing prize money known as "purse money", breeding funds, and to the Racing Commission.

If SB2384 becomes law, ADWs would lose a significant amount of customers. The cohort of customers who wager all or a predominant amount of their money on greyhound racing will disappear and the horse racing industry in North Dakota would be left hurting, dealing with the unnecessary negative financial consequences.



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We urge you to support the farmers and horsemen of North Dakota by opposing SB2384. It is harmful to the economy and residents of North Dakota.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Yours Truly

Nelson Clemmens

Founder & CEO AmWest Entertainment, LLC