



Testimony in **Opposition** to Senate Bill 2384

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am Deb Trickel, Vice President of Operations for US Off-Track, LLC, an advanced deposit wagering ("ADW") company licensed and regulated in North Dakota. I am writing to express our strong opposition to SB2384 which proposes the elimination of wagering on simulcast greyhound racing under the certificate system. We urge you to recommend a **DO NOT PASS on SB2384**.

I have worked in the pari-mutuel racing industry at racetracks, off-track betting sites ("OTB") and ADWs in Arizona, Oregon and North Dakota since 1988, and with greyhound adoption since 1994. I can attest that the exceptional care racing greyhounds receive during their careers is precisely why they transition so well into becoming wonderful family pets. I have never witnessed any mistreatment of greyhounds by their racing caretakers and would absolutely disengage from the industry if I had.

Greyhound racing and wagering on greyhound races are two separate activities. North Dakota has never hosted live greyhound racing, but it has legally allowed pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast greyhound races for over 30 years.

The North Dakota Racing Commission has been licensing and regulating ADW companies who offer wagering on simulcast greyhound racing for over two decades. The Commission, which is made up of five members appointed by the Governor, also licenses and regulates live horse racing and simulcast greyhound and horse wagering at off-track betting sites in North Dakota.

The North Dakota Racing Commission receives state funding to conduct its business. This appropriation is offset by taxes collected on greyhound and horse simulcast wagers, which are deposited into the general fund. Simulcast wagering taxes also fund the state's live horse racing and breeding industry through the breeders, purse and promotional fund.

100% of the breakage (the rounding down to the nearest \$0.10 of the return from winning pari-mutuel wagers by the totalizator/certificate system) goes to the Promotional Fund capping at the first \$20 million wagered per year per ADW.

Other payments & fees made to the state/racing commission include the initial license/application fees, background check fees and annual license (for ADW and individual staff).

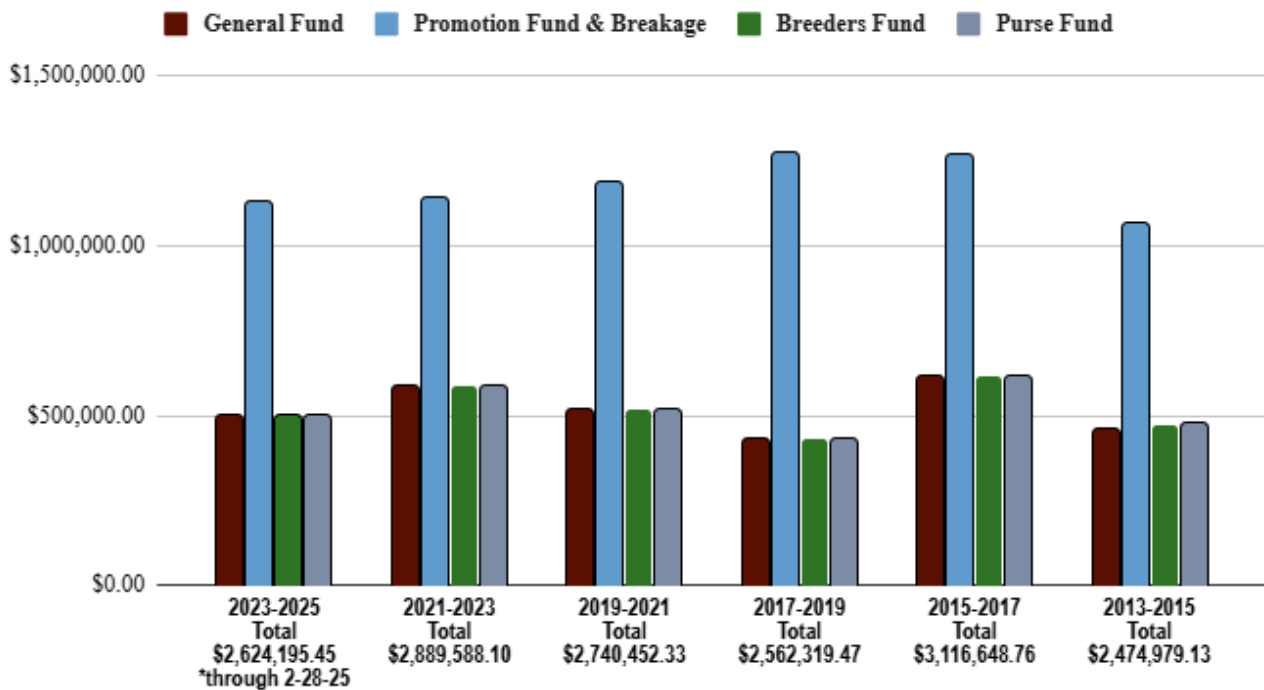
Before being licensed, all ADWs must contract with at least one nonprofit charity and agree to donate a portion of all wagers to benefit said charity or charities.

Seven of the sixteen North Dakota-licensed ADWs currently offer simulcast greyhound and horse wagering and would be negatively affected by SB2384's passage, potentially causing them to relocate to another regulatory jurisdiction. This relocation would result in significant financial losses for the State of North Dakota, charities, horsemen, and horsewomen. Ultimately, the viability of the North Dakota horse racing industry would be in jeopardy, as it relies solely on ADW tax money for funding.

US Off-Track respectfully requests that you recommend a **DO NOT PASS on Senate Bill 2384**. Thank you for your consideration.

Deb Trickel  
Vice President, Operations  
503 253 0234 ext. 70076 (o)  
503 453 5333 (c)

## Biennium ADW Tax Revenue by Fund



### ADW Taxes:

- .25% tax on all wagers (capped at \$420,000/year per ADW), which is then allocated to the following funds:
  - 1/16 to General Fund
  - 1/16 to Breeders Fund
  - 1/16 to Purse Fund
  - 1/16 to Promotional Fund

### Breakage:

- 100% of breakage to Promotional Fund (capped at first \$20 million wagered/year per ADW)

### Charitable Contributions

- Before being licensed, all ADWs must contract with at least one nonprofit charity and agree to donate a portion of all wagers to benefit said charity or charities.

### Fees and Other Payments Made to the State/Racing Commission:

- Initial license/application fees
- Background check fees
- Annual license fees (for ADW and individual staff members)