



THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES



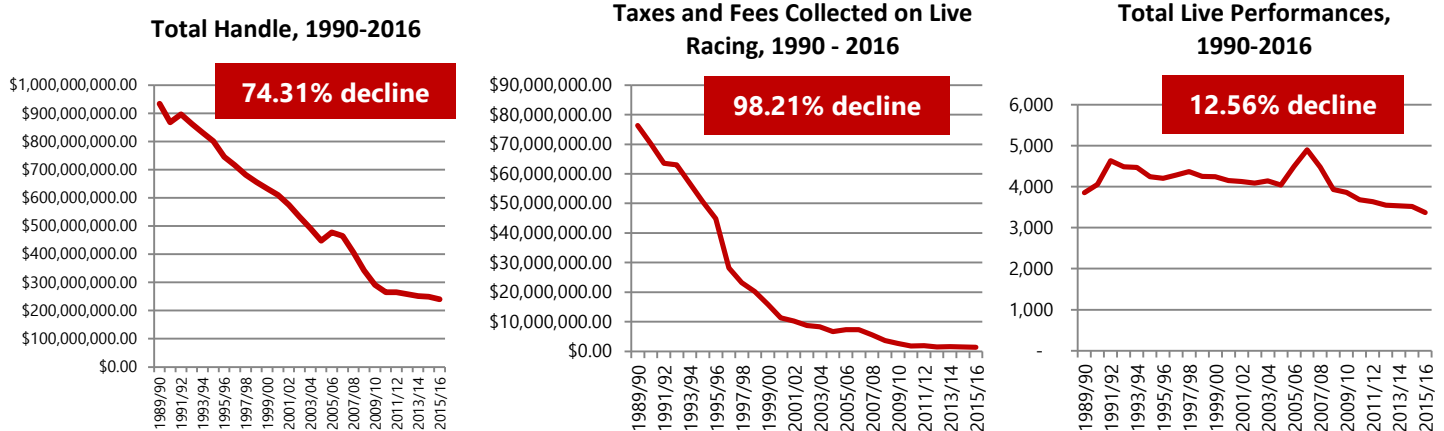
## Decouple Live Greyhound Racing

- Greyhound racing is a dying industry, and now exists in only six states. A majority (12 of 18) of all operational greyhound tracks in the United States are in Florida. In the state, the **amount gambled at dog tracks declined by 74% between 1990 and 2016.**
- Public opposition to dog racing is increasing due to humane concerns such as confinement and injuries. At Florida tracks, thousands of greyhounds are kept in small cages for long hours each day. **On average, a racing greyhound is dying in the state every three days.**
- The state dog racing mandate forces racetracks to offer live racing as a “loss leader” for more viable forms of betting. This comes at a significant cost to both taxpayers and track operators, and conflicts with free market principles. **In 2015, Florida tracks lost a combined \$31 million on greyhound racing.**
- Decoupling is not about whether dog racing should be legal, but whether the state should force a business to conduct one activity so that it may offer another. According to a study commissioned by the legislature, greyhound decoupling will **reduce gambling in Florida by an estimated \$23 million.**
- Greyhound decoupling is **supported by editorial boards and humane groups throughout Florida**, including the Tampa Bay Times, Sun Sentinel, Florida Times Union, Sarasota Herald Tribune, Panama City News Herald, Florida Association of Animal Welfare Organizations, Jacksonville Humane Society, Florida Animal Control Association, SPCA Tampa Bay, Greyhound Rescue and Adoptions of Tampa Bay and Greyhound Adoptions of Florida.
- Since 1990, the amount of taxes and fees collected by the state for live greyhound racing has **declined by 98%** from more than \$76 million in 1990 to only \$1.4 million in 2016. According to a study commissioned by the legislature, the state lost between \$1 million and \$3.3 million on greyhound racing in 2012.



Sweetie Pie of FL

*Wagers and taxes collected from greyhound racing in Florida have dramatically declined from 1990 to 2016, yet state mandates require the number of live performances to remain steady.*



Source: Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering