



*Josephine County Board of Commissioners*

*Daniel E. DeYoung, Chair • Herman E. Baertschiger Jr., Vice Chair • Darin J. Fowler, Commissioner*

June 9, 2021

To: Senate Rules Committee

Re: Josephine County Objects to SB871 (*Horse Racing Ban*)

Josephine County, as the owner of the racing facility that hosts Grants Pass Downs, objects to SB 871.

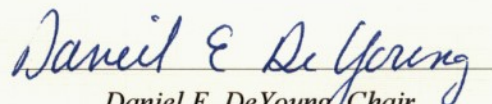
Because of horse racing, racehorses generally lead good lives. Race horses nurse from healthy mothers, sleep in secure and comfortable settings, play with each other and people, eat well-balanced diets, get expert veterinary and dental care, and receive copious human love. Racehorses love to run and to participate in a structured routine at which they are the center of attention. Beyond that, it is impossible to overstate how much horse people love their racehorses.

It is true that horse racing involves risk. But the benefit that horse racing provides to both horses and people far outweighs that risk. Horse racing is highly regulated by both the Oregon Racing Commission and by its own industry participants. A ban on horse racing would not improve the lives of the horses who obviously love the sport, or of the people who love racehorses.

Please enter this letter into the legislative record for SB 871 and all other proposed legislation that pertains to horse racing.

Sincerely,

Board of County Commissioners

  
Daniel E. DeYoung, Chair

  
Herman E. Baertschiger Jr., Vice Chair

  
Darin J. Fowler, Commissioner

COURTHOUSE

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