



Testimony

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Racetrack Gaming in Wyandotte County HB 2280

**Delivered February 21, 2019
House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee**

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City supports House Bill 2280.

The Unified Government 2019 Legislative Program states:

“The Unified Government will support legislation which assists The Woodlands re-opening as a racetrack gaming facility, so long as the owner of The Woodlands makes a good faith effort to work with the Unified Government in the development of the overall site.”

Given on-going discussions with the Unified Government and Wyandotte County economic development officials, we are now hopeful those conditions are going to be met.

The citizens of Wyandotte County have never wanted just a giant slots parlor in KCK. We advocated for years for a top quality, full service, Las Vegas style casino. We have that in the Hollywood Casino at Kansas Speedway. We also want The Woodlands to be a quality development, something more than just a horse track and slots parlor on hundreds of acres of prime land.

Until this year, we were not confident the owner had anything beyond that in his plans. Now, we think there are opportunities to not only re-open The Woodlands, but have quality development which will be an asset to the community on the rest of acreage.

For this reason, The Unified Government asks you to approve and advance this legislation.