

# THE ANIMAL COUNCIL

P.O. Box 168, Millbrae CA 94030

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March 20, 2006

Via Facsimile: 916-319-3745

Assembly Member Mark Leno  
Chair, Asm. Committee on Public Safety  
1020 N Street, Room 111  
Sacramento CA 95814

Attention: Kathleen Ragan, Committee Consultant

**Re: AB 2110. Animal cruelty: dogs: field coursing. OPPOSE**

Dear Mr. Leno and Committee Members:

We oppose AB 2110 creating a new crime of “field coursing” and request inclusion in the listed opposition for the Bill Analysis in your committee.

THE ANIMAL COUNCIL (TAC) a California nonprofit, public benefit, tax-exempt [§501(c)(4)] corporation was founded in 1991 to seek positive, humane solutions to animal public policy issues through study, analysis and application of animal husbandry, statistic, economics and law, and at the same time preserve humane benefit from all species, breeds and registries.

We believe that the subject of AB 2110 – open field coursing, which is currently lawful within the context of California Fish and Game law and regulation, is not an a proper subject of an animal cruelty law within the Penal Code. Proceeding in this venue conflicts with state Constitutional delegation, mis-characterizes Sighthounds and their owners and potentially exposes other dog owners to criminal liability or harassment in other lawful hunting activities or simply in every day activities where dogs are lawfully “untethered” except within the narrow exception for livestock management.

Accordingly, we respectfully ask that AB 2110 be either withdrawn or defeated.

Very truly yours,

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Sharon A. Coleman, President

Cc: Committee Members, Author

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