

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 837**

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H. P. 476

House of Representatives, February 11, 1971

Speaker laid before the House and on Motion of Mr. Kelleher of Bangor referred to Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

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**AN ACT to Establish a Colt Stake Program for Maine Standard Bred Horses.**

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 8, § 281, repealed and replaced.** Section 281 of Title 8 of the Revised Statutes, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**§ 281. Standard bred horses**

The commission shall encourage and promote the breeding of a strain of Maine standard bred horses, including the establishment of a colt stake program for 2 and 3-year-old colts and fillies, and rules and regulations to conduct the same.

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 7, § 62-A, additional.** Title 7 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 62-A to read as follows:

**§ 62-A. Colt stake stipend**

There shall be appropriated annually from the General Fund the sum of \$35,000 to aid and encourage agricultural society and harness racing licensees to conduct races for 2 and 3-year-old Maine standard bred colts and fillies. The commission shall award said colt stake stipend to each harness racing licensee which conducts such races for payment equal to the purse for each such race but not exceeding \$1,000 for each such race. No colt or filly shall be eligible to race in this program unless sired by a stallion standing full season in Maine or unless it is the product of a wholly owned Maine resident mare bred to a stallion standing within one of the other New England states, providing the mare returns to Maine for 6 months. An owner who misrepresents the antecedents of a colt or filly and enters in any colt stake race a colt

or filly which is ineligible under this section or under rules and regulations prescribed by the commission shall forfeit any purse won and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

It is the intent of this bill that there be established under supervision of the Harness Racing Commission a program of 2 and 3-year-old colt races to stimulate efforts to maintain a breeding program in Maine. A colt stake stipend of \$35,000 is appropriated to match colt racing purses offered by licensees under the program.