

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 629

H. P. 510

House of Representatives, February 24, 1977

On motion of Mr. Mahany of Easton, referred to Committee on Agriculture.
Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hall of Sangerville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Place Running Horse Racing under the Jurisdiction of the
Department of Agriculture.**

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

Sec. 1. 8 MRSA § 321, 2nd sentence is repealed as follows:

~~No more than 2 members shall be of the same political party~~

Sec. 2. 8 MRSA § 323, as repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 585, § 2, is amended to read:

§ 323. Assistants

The Commissioner of ~~the Department of Business Regulation~~ **Agriculture** is authorized to employ such personnel as he may deem necessary to provide adequate policing and to carry out the purposes of this chapter at such compensation on a per diem basis as said commissioner may prescribe, subject to the Personnel Law.

Sec. 3. 8 MRSA § 324-A is enacted to read:

§ 324-A. Compensation

Each member of the commission shall receive as full compensation for each day actually spent on the work of the commission the sum of \$25 and his reasonable expenses, including transportation, incurred in the performance of his duties.

Sec. 4. 8 MRSA § 325 is amended to read:

§ 325. Reports

The commission shall make an annual report to the ~~Governor~~ **Commissioner of Agriculture** on or before the first day of February in each year, including therein an account of its actions, receipts derived under the provisions hereof, the practical effects of the application of this chapter and any recommendation for legislation which the commission deems advisable.

Sec. 5. 8 MRSA § 329, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 1969, c. 218, § 2, is further amended to read:

Racing shall be permitted ~~at Scarborough Downs~~ until the hour of midnight each day from May 15th to November 30th each year. The license shall set forth the name of the licensee, the place where the races or race meets are to be held and the time and number of days during which racing may be conducted by said licensee. Any such license issued shall not be transferable nor assignable. The Administrative ~~Hearing Commissioner~~ **Court Judge**, as designated in Title 5, chapters 301 to 307, shall have the power to revoke any license for good cause upon notice and hearing. The license of any corporation shall automatically cease upon the change in ownership, legal or equitable, of 50% or more of the voting stock of the corporation and the corporation shall not hold a running horse meet for public exhibition without a new license. The fee for such license shall be ~~\$5,000 annually~~ **\$10 for each 6 days of racing.**

Sec. 6. 8 MRSA § 334, 1st ¶, 2nd sentence is amended to read:

Each person, association, corporation, trust or partnership licensed to conduct a race or race meet under this chapter shall pay to the city or town treasurer in which the racing plant is located the sum of \$25 for each day of racing, provided such person, association, corporation, trust or partnership has a license to conduct races or race meets for more than 8 10 days during the year for which the license is issued.

Sec. 7. 8 MRSA § 339 is repealed.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to place the running of horse racing under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture. It would also provide for weekly compensation of commission members of \$25 and expenses and would establish a \$10 license fee for racing horses.