

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 543

H. P. 407

House of Representatives, February 14, 1979

The Speaker laid before the House and on Motion of Mr. Mahany of Easton reconsidered reference to the Committee on Business Legislation and on further motion by the same gentleman, referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cunningham of New Gloucester.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Amend the Laws Relating to the State Harness Racing Commission.**

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

**Sec. 1.** 8 MRSA § 261, as amended by PL 1975, c. 771, § 103, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**§ 261. Commission**

The State Harness Racing Commission, as heretofore established and hereinafter in this chapter called the "commission," shall consist of 3 members who shall be appointed and may be for cause removed by the Governor. No more than 2 members shall be of the same political party. One member shall be a representative of the interests involved in operating pari-mutuel racing, one member shall be a representative from the horsemen involved in pari-mutuel racing and one member shall be a public representative. Upon the expiration of the term of office of any member, his successor shall be appointed for a term of 3 years. Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term. The members shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.

**Sec. 2. Application.** This Act shall apply only to appointments to the commission made after the effective date of this Act and shall not affect the term

of service of any person appointed to the commission prior to the effective date of this Act.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to provide that the members on the State Harness Racing Commission represent the 3 major factions involved in harness racing: The track interest, the horsemen's interests and the public interests. In order to protect the several interests as set out in Title 8, § 261, creating the commission that all 3 interests be protected, consumers and horsemen who support the entire industry should never be denied representation on the commission.