

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. of S.

L.D. 2022

(Filing No. S-556)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 781, L.D. 2022, "Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Harness Racing Industry"

Amend the resolve by striking out all of sections 2 to 8 and inserting in their place the following:

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of the following 11 members: 2 Senators appointed by the President of the Senate; 4 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and 5 nonlegislative members to include one driver, one trainer and one breeder of harness racing horses, one member representing the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs and one member representing the public. Three of the 6 legislative appointments must be members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture. The Governor shall appoint the nonlegislative members who must represent geographically diverse areas of the State; and be it further

Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings; chair. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council upon making those appointments. The Chair of the Legislative Council shall call the first meeting of the commission no later than May 15, 1990. The commission shall select a legislative member as chair; and be it further

Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved: That the commission undertake a study of the harness racing industry with the goal of ensuring the integrity of that industry. As part of this study the commission shall:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 781, L.D. 2022

2 1. Determine whether the harness racing industry is a
4 viable industry and the amount of income, if any, the industry
produces for the State;

6 2. Review the level of public control of the harness racing
8 industry and recommend appropriate changes;

10 3. Examine the role and duties of the State Harness Racing
12 Commission and recommend appropriate changes to strengthen and
support the commission;

14 4. Examine the laws and rules governing the industry with
16 the goal of establishing better enforcement mechanisms for
violations of the laws or rules;

18 5. Investigate the ability of industry participants to earn
20 a living and examine the need to establish a list of rights and
due process procedures that horse owners, trainers, drivers and
grooms may not be denied while participating in a meet; and

22 6. Examine and make recommendations on any issue that
24 threatens the integrity and stability of the industry including,
but not limited to, the following:

26 A. The need to develop improved methods of drug testing and
28 oversight of drug use in the industry, including possible
roles for the University of Maine;

30 B. The role of the Attorney General in regulating the
32 industry;

34 C. Establishment of racing date schedules for more than one
year at a time;

36 D. Disbursement of the handle under existing laws;

38 E. Regulation of qualifying times; and

40 F. The adequacy of current fee structures in the industry;
42 and be it further

44 **Sec. 5. Report. Resolved:** That the commission complete its
meetings by October 1, 1990, and submit its report, together with
46 any necessary implementing legislation, to the First Regular
Session of the 115th Legislature and the Executive Director of
48 the Legislative Council by November 1, 1990; and be it further

50 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the commission request
from the Legislative Council sufficient staff assistance to carry
52 out these duties. The Attorney General shall provide assistance
as requested by the commission; and be it further

