

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Reported by: Minority

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A" to S.P. 188, L.D. 606, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Off-track Betting Laws as They Pertain to Reduced Payments for Small Market Licensees"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §275-O, sub-§§1 and 2, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 403, §1, are repealed and the following enacted in their place:

1. Eligible licensees. This section grants reduced payments to off-track betting licensees eligible under subsection 2.

2. Reduced payments formula. For eligible off-track betting licensees, the reduction in payments due is calculated as set out in this subsection.

A. When all wagers made at the off-track betting facility into commingled pools on interstate simulcast races in any calendar week are less than or equal to \$40,000, the amounts payable by the licensee are 20% of the amounts prescribed by the sections listed in subsection 3.

B. When all wagers made at the off-track betting facility into commingled pools on interstate simulcast races in any calendar week are over \$40,000 and less than or equal to \$60,000, the amounts payable by the licensee are 40% of the amounts prescribed by the sections listed in subsection 3.

2 C. When all wagers made at the off-track betting facility
3 into commingled pools on interstate simulcast races in any
4 calendar week are over \$60,000 and less than or equal to
5 \$80,000, the amounts payable by the licensee are 60% of the
6 amounts prescribed by the sections listed in subsection 3.

7 D. When all wagers made at the off-track betting facility
8 into commingled pools on interstate simulcast races in any
9 calendar week are over \$80,000, the amounts payable by the
10 licensee are 100% of the amounts prescribed by the sections
11 listed in subsection 3.

12 **Sec. 2. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from
13 Other Special Revenue to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1997-98	1998-99
14		
15		
16		
17		
18	AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND	
19	RURAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF	
20		
21	Harness Racing Commission	

22		
23		
24	All Other	(\$217,861) (\$262,483)

25 Deallocation of funds to reflect
26 the reduced distribution of
27 the harness racing handle.
28 Beginning in fiscal year
29 1998-99, the specific
30 reductions are as follows:
31 \$36,627 to the Stipend Fund,
32 \$25,017 to the Sire Stakes
33 Fund, \$6,264 to the Harness
34 Racing Promotional Fund,
35 \$90,051 for purse supplements
36 and \$104,524 payable to the
37 racetracks. The total
38 deallocation for fiscal year
39 1997-98 reflects the same
40 proportional reductions to
41 each of the funds prorated to
42 reflect an effective date
43 after the start of that
44 fiscal year.'

45 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
46 summary the following:
47
48

FISCAL NOTE

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1997-98

1998-99

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APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

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Other Funds (\$217,861) (\$262,483)

8

10 REVENUES

12

Other Funds (\$217,861) (\$262,483)

14

16 Changes in the distribution of harness racing proceeds will
18 reduce amounts distributed for various purposes in certain
20 situations. The estimated reductions of dedicated revenue
22 collected by the State Harness Racing Commission within the
Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources are \$217,861
and \$262,483 in fiscal years 1997-98 and 1998-99, respectively.
Allocations to the Harness Racing Commission are adjusted
downward to reflect these reductions of dedicated revenue.

24

SUMMARY

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28 The amendment replaces the original bill. The amendment
30 establishes a reduced payment schedule for certain off-track
32 betting facilities when all wagers into commingled pools on
interstate simulcast races in any week are equal to amounts
specified in the amendment. The amendment also adds an
allocation section and fiscal note.