MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 119TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "H" to H.P. 749, L.D. 1039, Bill, "An Act to Allow Horse Racing Commencing at Noon on Sundays"

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Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

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'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

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Whereas, current law provides that harness racing may not be commenced until 1 p.m. on Sundays; and

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Whereas, it is necessary for harness racing tracks to commence races at noon in order to operate more efficiently; and

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Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

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Further amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause and before section 1 the following:

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'Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §261-A, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 579, §4 and affected by §18, is amended to read:

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5. Confirmation. Appointees must be reviewed by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural---matters harness racing and are subject to confirmation by the Legislature.

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	Sec. 2. 8 MRSA §267, sub-§1,	as	enacted	by	PL	1991,	C,	579,
§8,	is amended to read:							

1. Budget. The commission shall submit to the commissioner as provided in Title 5, section 1665, a budget sufficient to 6 carry out the provisions of this chapter, and the commissioner 8 shall transmit these requirements to the Bureau of the Budget without any revision, alteration or change. The commission shall 10 submit a copy of this budget with any desired comments to the

joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction 12 over agricultural-matters harness racing and to the Executive

Director of the Legislative Council. 14

> Sec. 3. 8 MRSA §267, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1997, c. 528, §9, is further amended to read:

2. Report. By May 1st annually, the commission shall make a report to the commissioner with copies to the Governor, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural--matters harness racing and the Executive Director of the Legislative Council. This report must include an account of the commission's operations and actions, a report of its financial position, including receipts, an account of the practical effects of application of this chapter and recommended legislation. The operations report must include the number and types of violations of racing laws and rules, the disposition of those violations and the amount of time required for their disposition, including a history of any appeals.'

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Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

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'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

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Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number consecutively.

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SUMMARY

44 This amendment transfers approval for appointments and reporting requirements for the Maine State Harness Racing Commission from the joint standing committee of the Legislature 46 having jurisdiction over agricultural matters to the joint 48 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over harness racing.

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