

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1183

H.P. 849

House of Representatives, February 11, 1999

An Act to Increase Harness Racing Opportunities.

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative TESSIER of Fairfield.

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

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Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §271, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1997, c. 528, §11, is further amended to read:

1. Licensing. If the commission is satisfied that all of this chapter and rules prescribed by the commission have been substantially complied with during the past year and will be fully complied with during the coming year by the person, association or corporation applying for a license; that the applicant, its members, directors, officers, shareholders, employees, creditors and associates are of good moral character; ~~and that the applicant is financially responsible; and that the award of racing dates to the applicant is appropriate under the criteria contained in subsection 2,~~ it may issue a license for the holding of harness horse races or meets for public exhibition with pari-mutuel pools, which must expire on December 31st. The fee for a license is \$100 or \$10 per week, whichever is higher. The commission shall provide a booklet containing harness racing laws and rules and relevant portions of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act to every initial licensee and a fee not to exceed \$10 must be included in the license fee to cover the cost of this publication. The commission shall provide necessary revisions of this booklet to those persons renewing licenses at the time of renewal and shall include the cost of the revisions, not to exceed \$10, in the renewal fee. The license must set forth the name of the licensee, ~~and the specific race dates and time of day or night during which racing may be conducted by the licensee. The location stated in the license where the race or race meet is to be held may be transferred to any other licensee on the dates set forth in the license during which the racing may be conducted, but, with respect to that transfer, the transfer may only be made to another licensee and the licensee is liable for compliance with all laws and regulations governing the conduct of harness racing.~~ Any such license issued is not transferable or assignable. The Administrative Court Judge, as designated in Title 4, chapter 25, may revoke any license issued at any time for violation of the commission's rules or licensing provisions upon notice and hearing. The license of any corporation is automatically revoked, subject to Title 5, chapter 375, upon the change in ownership, legal or equitable, of 50% or more of the voting stock of the corporation and the corporation may not hold a harness horse race or meet for public exhibition without a new license.

Sec. 2. 8 MRSA §271, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1995, c. 408, §2, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 8 MRSA §271, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1991, c. 579, §10, is repealed.

