

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1544

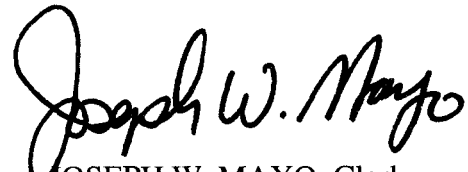
H.P. 1097

House of Representatives, February 25, 1999

An Act to Study the Effectiveness of Harness Racing Promotions.

(EMERGENCY)

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.

2 3. Other members appointed by the Governor as follows:

4 A. One member from each commercial track licensed under the
Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8, chapter 11;

6 B. One member from the Department of Agriculture, Food and
Rural Resources; and

8 C. One member from the Department of Economic and Community
10 Development, Office of Tourism and Community Development.

12 **Sec. B-3. Cochairs.** The first named Senate member is the
Senate chair of the commission and the first named House of
14 Representatives member is the House chair of the commission.

16 **Sec. B-4. Appointments; meetings.** All appointments must be
made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
18 Act. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive
Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have
20 been completed. Within 15 days after appointment of all members,
the cochairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the
22 commission.

24 **Sec. B-5. Duties.** The commission shall:

26 1. Analyze economic trends in different harness racing
venues from 1990 to the present;

28 2. Evaluate the effectiveness of harness racing promotions
30 historically;

32 3. Study and develop options for future promotion and
methods to evaluate future promotion; and

34 4. Study ways to coordinate with other marketing efforts
36 and programs of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural
Resources and of the Office of Tourism and Community Development.

38 **Sec. B-6. Staff assistance.** Upon approval of the Legislative
40 Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall provide
necessary staffing services to the commission.

42 **Sec. B-7. Compensation.** The members of the commission are
44 entitled to receive legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine
Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2 and reimbursement for travel
46 and other necessary expenses related to their attendance at
meetings of the commission.

48 **Sec. B-8. Report.** The commission shall submit its report,
50 together with any recommended implementing legislation, to the

2 Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature no later than
4 January 10, 2000. If the commission requires an extension of
time to complete its report, it may apply to the Legislative
Council, which may grant the extension.

6 **Sec. B-9. Commission budget.** The cochairs of the commission,
with assistance from the commission staff, shall administer the
8 commission's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the
commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the
10 Legislative Council for its approval. The commission may not
incur expenses that would exceed its approved budget.

12
14 Upon request from the commission, the Executive Director of
the Legislative Council or the executive director's designee,
shall promptly provide the commission cochairs and staff with a
16 status report on the study budget, expenditures incurred and paid
and available funds.

18
20 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

22

24 SUMMARY

26 Part A of this bill abolishes the Harness Racing Promotional
Board effective July 10, 2000. Part B of this bill establishes
the Commission to Study the Effectiveness of Harness Racing
28 Promotions, which will report to the Second Regular Session of
the 119th Legislature no later than January 10, 2000.