

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1944

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Date: 3/31/22

(Filing No. H-897)

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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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STATE OF MAINE

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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130TH LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1449, L.D. 1944, "An Act To Provide the State Harness Racing Commission Greater Efficiency in Rules Enforcement"

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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 and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

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Whereas, the State Harness Racing Commission places great value on resolving violations quickly when a potential return of a race purse is called for, and a disqualified participant may retain a purse garnered unfairly while distribution to the rightful recipients may be delayed because of the adjudicatory process; and

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Whereas, this legislation authorizes the State Harness Racing Commission to enter into consent agreements to resolve violations of the laws and rules relating to harness racing in a more efficient and timely manner; 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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Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 3 in the 3rd line (page 1, line 5 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "the alleged violator."

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Amend the bill by adding before the summary the following:

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

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Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill. The bill provides that a consent agreement may be entered into only with the consent of the licensee, the alleged violator, the State Harness Racing Commission and the Department of the Attorney General. The amendment removes the alleged violator from the list of those whose consent is required for the execution of a consent agreement.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1944

LR 2577(02)

An Act To Provide the State Harness Racing Commission Greater Efficiency in Rules Enforcement

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-897)

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor net cost impact - General Fund

Minor revenue increase - General Fund

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

This bill may increase the number of civil suits filed in the court system. The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system does not require additional funding at this time. The collection of additional filing fees may increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill provides that the State Harness Racing Commission may enter into consent agreements with the licensee's consent, the commission and the Department of the Attorney General to resolve violations of the laws relating to harness racing. Allowing the use of consent agreements to resolve violations will reduce the number of adjudicatory hearings, resulting in minor savings.