

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1062

H. P. 974 House of Representatives, February 24, 1953
Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence
and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Stewart of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Local Option for Horse Racing.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 77, § 8-A, additional. Chapter 77 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 8-A, to read as follows :

‘Sec. 8-A. **Local option.** The aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of plantations are empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for the calling and holding of biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and representatives, at the time of holding such biennial meeting to give in their votes upon the following question :

“Shall pari mutuel harness horse racing be permitted in this area, specifically in the town of _____ or city of _____ ?”

If a majority of the votes cast in an area is in the affirmative, the commission may issue licenses for pari mutuel harness horse racing in the area for the 2 calendar years next following, subject to all provisions of law.

If a majority of the votes cast in an area is in the negative, the commission shall not issue licenses for harness horse racing in the area for the 2 calendar years next following.

In case of a tie vote on the question, the law shall remain as it was before the voting.

The word "area," as used in this section, shall mean all cities, towns and plantations, the city or town building of which is located within a radius of 35 miles from the pari mutuel booth on the grounds of any race track. The determination of what cities, towns and plantations are within any area shall be the duty of the secretary of state.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 77-A, 5-A, additional. Chapter 77-A of the revised statutes, as enacted by chapter 289 of the public laws of 1949, is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 5-A, to read as follows:

'Sec. 5-A. Local option. The alderman of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of plantations are empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for the calling and holding of biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and representatives, at the time of holding such biennial meeting to give in their votes upon the following question:

"Shall pari mutuel running horse racing be permitted in this area, specifically in the own of _____ or city of _____?"

If a majority of the votes cast in an area is in the affirmative, the commission may issue license for pari mutuel running horse racing in the area for the 2 calendar years next following, subject to all provisions of law.

If a majority of the votes cast in an area is in the negative, the commission shall not issue licenses for running horse racing in the area for the 2 calendar years next following.

In case of a tie vote on the question, the law shall remain as it was before the voting.

The word "area," as used in this section, shall mean all cities, towns and plantations, the city or town building of which is located within a radius of 75 miles from the pari mutuel booth on the grounds of any race track. The determination of what cities, towns and plantations are within any area shall be the duty of the secretary of state.'