

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

NEW DRAFT OF H. P. 974, L. D. 1062—NEW TITLE

---

---

N I N E T Y - S I X T H    L E G I S L A T U R E

---

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 1551**

H. P. 1301

House of Representatives, May 4, 1953.

Reported by Minority from Committee on Legal Affairs and printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-THREE

---

**AN ACT Relating to Referendum for Pari Mutuel Horse Racing.**

---

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

**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. Referendum.** It shall be lawful for pari mutuel running horse racing to be conducted in any county that votes to permit the same. 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 meetings to give in their votes upon the question whether or not pari mutuel running horse racing shall be permitted in their respective county.

This section shall not be effective in any county until a majority of the legal voters present and voting at any regular election so vote. The question, in appropriate terms, may be submitted to the voters at any such regular election and shall be submitted when thereto requested in writing by a number of voters equal to or exceeding 10% of the total vote for all candidates for governor at the next gubernatorial election in said county,

at least 30 days before such regular election. Such request shall be made to the secretary of state. When a county has voted in favor of adopting the provisions hereof, said provisions shall remain in effect therein until repealed in the same manner as above provided for their adoption.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to any agricultural fair association licensed under the provisions of this chapter.

Subject to the foregoing provisions it shall be lawful for pari mutuel running horse racing to be conducted in the night time in any county that votes to permit the same, in the same manner as provided above. Night time for the purposes of this act is defined as that period of the day subsequent to 6 p. m. standard time. The same procedure as outlined in the foregoing shall be used for the determination of whether or not night running racing shall be permitted within the respective counties.

The provisions of the law relating to permission to conduct running horse racing which are now in force shall remain effective until modified, amended, extended or repealed, according to the provisions of this act.