

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 512

Session of
1981

INTRODUCED BY O'CONNELL, LOEPER, STAPLETON AND MELLOW,
MARCH 17, 1981

SENATOR HELFRICK, AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, AS AMENDED,
APRIL 6, 1981

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 22, 1959 (P.L.1978, No.728),
2 entitled, as amended, "An act providing for and regulating
3 harness racing with pari-mutuel wagering on the results
4 thereof; creating the State Harness Racing Commission as a
5 departmental administrative commission within the Department
6 of Agriculture and defining its powers and duties; providing
7 for the establishment and operation of harness racing plants
8 subject to local option; imposing taxes on revenues of such
9 plants; disposing of all moneys received by the commission
10 and all moneys collected from the taxes; authorizing
11 penalties; and making appropriations," further providing for
12 the number of days in a calendar year for which corporations
13 may be licensed to conduct harness racing.

14 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
15 hereby enacts as follows:

16 Section 1. Section 5, act of December 22, 1959 (P.L.1978,
17 No.728), referred to as the Pennsylvania Harness Racing Law,
18 amended January 2, 1973 (1972 P.L.1737, No.374), is amended to
19 read:

20 Section 5. Pari-mutuel Betting at Harness Races.--No more
21 than five corporations shall be licensed by the State Harness
22 Racing Commission in any one year to conduct a pari-mutuel meet

1 or meets. No corporation shall be licensed to conduct harness
2 racing for more than one hundred days in any calendar year. The
3 commission may at its discretion, upon the written request of a
4 licensed corporation, grant to such licensed corporation an
5 additional number of racing days in any calendar year but in no
6 case shall any additional grant exceed fifty additional racing
7 days. If, IN ANY CALENDAR YEAR a licensed corporation loses <—
8 racing days due to reasons beyond its control, the commission
9 may grant it additional racing days IN THE NEXT SUCCEEDING YEAR <—
10 to make up for those it lost in the ~~next succeeding~~ PRIOR year. <—
11 Said pari-mutuel betting conducted at such meeting shall be
12 under the general supervision and control of the State Harness
13 Racing Commission which shall make rules regulating the conduct
14 of such pari-mutuel betting in accordance with the provisions of
15 this act. The Department of Revenue is charged with the
16 financial administration of pari-mutuel betting as prescribed in
17 this act and as supplemented by the rules and regulations of the
18 State Harness Racing Commission. The Department of Revenue shall
19 have authority to prescribe the forms and the system of
20 accounting to be employed, and through its representatives
21 shall, at all times, have power of access to, and examination
22 of, any equipment relating to such betting.

23 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.