
CHAPTER 710

(Senate Bill 799)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 18B(e) of Article 78B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Supplement), title "Racing Commission," subtitle "In General," to increase the amount of annual payments made by the State Comptroller to the Hagerstown Race Track out of the payments made to the State by the Marlboro Race Track for a period of years as the result of the agreement for the running of racing dates of the Hagerstown Track at the Marlboro Track.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 18B(e) of Article 78B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Supplement), title "Racing Commission," subtitle "In General," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

18B.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, the Racing Commission may award a license and the dates heretofore awarded to the Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Washington County to a joint venture consisting of the Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Washington County and the Southern Maryland Agricultural Fair Association of Prince George's County; and the Racing Commission is specifically authorized to approve agreements between such licensees providing for the running of the dates of the Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Washington County at the track of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Fair Association of Prince George's County for a period or periods aggregating not more than nine (9) years; provided, however, that no dates awarded pursuant to this section shall conflict with any other dates for racing in Prince George's County. If such joint venture shall be awarded a license and dates for racing at the track of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Fair Association of Prince George's County during nine (9) calendar years, the Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Washington County shall be deemed to have forfeited its rights to conduct racing after said ninth year and it shall not thereafter be awarded dates or a license for racing, and the number of racing days theretofore annually awarded to it shall thereafter be awarded by the Racing Commission to the Southern Maryland Agricultural Fair Association of Prince George's County in addition to the number of racing days then awardable to the Southern Maryland Agricultural Fair Association of Prince George's County pursuant to Section 15(a) of this article; provided, however, that no dates awarded pursuant to this section shall conflict with any other dates for racing in Prince George's County. If the license and dates are awarded as provided above in this subsection, the Southern Maryland Agricultural Fair Association of Prince George's County for a period of ten years shall pay such amount as shall be reviewed by the Racing Commission, but in no case less than six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) per racing day to the State Comptroller for each racing day transferred; from these payments the State Comptroller for a period of [~~ten~~] **EIGHT** years shall pay the sum of [~~eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000.00)]~~ **ONE HUNDRED EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$108,000.00)** each year to the Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Washington County, if that association operates a fair in the particular year; and the remainder of the moneys received by the Comptroller from the Southern Maryland Agricultural Fair Association of Prince George's County shall be credited to the general funds of the State treasury.