

The two bills mentioned earlier require the testing of horses entering Maryland on a 6 months basis. Virginia has a 12 months test as well as Pennsylvania. New Jersey has just moved from a 6 months test to a 12 months requirement. We are attempting to be comparable with surrounding states in our requirements as well as work with the Racing Commission, although I understand the Maryland Standard Breeders' requirements are 6 months.

We are attempting to evaluate very carefully our development of this program. It is possible through regulation to strengthen our requirements and even change the testing period if we find it advisable. However, at this time we would like to develop what we believe to be practical regulations and avoid moving to a 6 months test requirement as mandated by these two bills. I have discussed this matter with the sponsor and explained our position, which I believe he understands, and with the inadequate wording in the bill, perhaps we could delay this legislation to give our program a chance to work.

Sincerely,
/s/ Young D. Hance
Secretary

House Bill No. 1078 - Tests Required for Sale of Horses

AN ACT concerning

Sale of Horses

FOR the purpose of requiring a certificate stating that a certain test has been given to any horse or other equine offered for sale in this State; providing that this certificate shall contain certain information; and relating generally to sale of horses and other equines in Maryland.

May 15, 1975.

Honorable John Hanson Briscoe
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the