

HOUSE BILL 481

C6

7lr2454
CF 7lr2368

By: **Delegates Turner and Hill**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2017

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Racing Commission – Equine Medical Director – Employment and Costs**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Racing Commission to employ an equine medical
4 director under certain circumstances; requiring the Commission to direct that
5 certain track licensees, certain owners and trainers, and certain breeders pay the
6 cost of employing the equine medical director based on a certain percentage; and
7 generally relating to the State Racing Commission and the employment of an equine
8 medical director.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Business Regulation
11 Section 11–207
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Business Regulation**

17 11–207.

18 (a) On the recommendation of the executive director, the Commission may
19 employ additional employees or agents, including auditors, experts, guards, inspectors, a
20 breathalyzer operator at each harness racing track, scientists, Commission secretaries,
21 specimen collectors, veterinarians, **AN EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR**, and others whom
22 the Commission considers to be essential at or in connection with a race meeting in the best
23 interests of racing.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(b) [The] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE** licensee who holds the race meeting for which an additional employee is used shall pay:

(1) the employer contribution for the employee under the Employees' Pension System;

(2) the employer contribution, as determined by the Department of Budget and Management, for the retiree under § 2–508 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article; and

(3) an amount required under § 23–306.1(b) of the State Personnel and Pensions Article, if any.

(c) A licensee who holds a race meeting shall employ and pay the officials at the race meeting, other than stewards and harness judges, including each clerk of the course, clerk of the scales, handicapper, paddock judge, patrol judge, placing judge, racing secretary, starter, assistant starter, and timer.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, if a licensee is required to allocate 0.25% of handle to either the Maryland Race Track Employees Pension Fund or the Maryland Harness Track Employees Pension Fund, the licensee shall first pay from the allocation any amounts required to be paid by the licensee under subsection (b) of this section and the remainder shall be paid to the appropriate pension fund.

(E) THE COMMISSION SHALL DIRECT THAT THE COST OF EMPLOYING THE EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR AUTHORIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE PAID:

(1) 80% BY THOROUGHBRED TRACK LICENSEES, GROUPS THAT REPRESENT THOROUGHBRED OWNERS AND TRAINERS LICENSED IN THE STATE, AND GROUPS THAT REPRESENT THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS IN THE STATE; AND

(2) 20% BY STANDARD BRED TRACK LICENSEES, GROUPS THAT REPRESENT STANDARD BRED OWNERS AND TRAINERS LICENSED IN THE STATE, AND GROUPS THAT REPRESENT STANDARD BRED BREEDERS IN THE STATE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017.