

HOUSE BILL 727

C6

6lr2937

By: **Delegates West, Aumann, Hettleman, Morhaim, and Stein**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Horse Racing – Intertrack Betting – Public Hearing Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Racing Commission to hold certain public hearings
4 at certain track locations; requiring the Commission to give notice of certain public
5 hearings to certain individuals and businesses within a certain area; and generally
6 relating to public hearings on intertrack betting on horse racing.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Business Regulation
9 Section 11–811(a), (b), and (c)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Business Regulation
14 Section 11–811(d)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Business Regulation**

20 11–811.

21 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (2) “Fair Hill” means the Cecil County Breeders’ Fair, Inc., or its successor.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) "State Fair Society" means the Maryland State Fair and Agricultural
2 Society, Inc.

3 (b) This section applies only to intertrack betting in which:

4 (1) the sending track is equipped to transmit simulcast races and is:

5 (i) a mile thoroughbred track;

6 (ii) a harness track;

7 (iii) a track where racing is conducted by Fair Hill; or

8 (iv) a track where racing is conducted by the State Fair Society; and

9 (2) the receiving track is:

10 (i) equipped to receive simulcast races and hold intertrack betting
11 on those races; and

12 (ii) one of the tracks specified in item (1) of this subsection.

13 (c) The Commission may authorize intertrack betting involving tracks of:

14 (1) mile thoroughbred racing licensees;

15 (2) harness racing licensees;

16 (3) Fair Hill; or

17 (4) the State Fair Society.

18 (d) (1) The Commission may authorize licensees, Fair Hill, or the State Fair
19 Society to participate in intertrack betting by operating sending tracks and receiving tracks
20 only if:

21 [(1)] (I) the operators of the sending track and the receiving track submit
22 a joint application to the Commission;

23 [(2)] (II) **SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION**, the
24 Commission holds a public hearing on the matter;

25 [(3)] (III) the operator of the receiving track shows to the satisfaction of the
26 Commission that the operator has held, is holding, or will hold regularly scheduled race
27 meetings at the receiving track in accordance with a license and has complied with the
28 terms of the license; and

1 ~~[(4)]~~ **(IV)** the receiving track meets the requirements of subsection (e) of
2 this section, unless the Commission has waived them, and subsection (f) of this section.

3 **(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

4 **(I) HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF**
5 **THIS SUBSECTION AT THE LOCATION OF THE RECEIVING TRACK; AND**

6 **(II) GIVE AT LEAST 30 DAYS' NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING**
7 **TO:**

8 **1. ALL RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES WITHIN A 1-MILE**
9 **RADIUS OF THE RECEIVING TRACK; AND**

10 **2. THE SENATORS, DELEGATES, AND COUNTY-ELECTED**
11 **OFFICIALS THAT REPRESENT THE AREA THAT IS WITHIN A 1-MILE RADIUS OF THE**
12 **RECEIVING TRACK.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2016.