

HOUSE BILL 815

C6

6lr3117

By: **Cecil County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Horse Racing – Fair Hill – Arabian Breed Racing Authorization**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a licensee at the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management
4 Area to conduct live racing of Arabian breed horses under certain circumstances;
5 defining a certain term; and generally relating to horse racing at Fair Hill.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article – Business Regulation
8 Section 11–701 through 11–704
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

11 BY adding to
12 Article – Business Regulation
13 Section 11–705
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Business Regulation**

19 11–701.

20 This subtitle applies only to the licensee that is the Cecil County Breeders' Fair, Inc.,
21 or its successor.

22 11–702.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) (1) The Commission shall issue a license to the Cecil County Breeders'
2 Fair, Inc., or its successor to hold racing on at least 2 but not more than 8 one-day race
3 meetings a year for steeplechase, hurdle, or flat racing at the Fair Hill Natural Resources
4 Management Area.

5 (2) The racing shall be held on dates that the licensee chooses and the
6 Commission approves.

7 (b) In conjunction with this racing, an agricultural fair with livestock entered for
8 exhibition shall be held under the auspices of the State Fair Board on at least 1 racing day.

9 (c) For each racing day, the licensee shall offer at least 1 steeplechase or hurdle
10 race for each flat race, but an additional flat race may be substituted for a steeplechase race
11 or hurdle race that is not filled.

12 (d) An officer of the licensee may not receive a salary or dividends from racing
13 allowed under this subtitle.

14 (e) The licensee shall allocate to the Union Hospital of Cecil County all profits
15 earned under this subtitle, including money from pari-mutuel betting, admission charges,
16 and other receipts.

17 11-703.

18 The Commission may issue a license to the licensee to hold racing on 2 race meetings
19 a year for quarter horse racing at the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area.

20 11-704.

21 (a) (1) The licensee shall deduct from the handle:

22 (i) all the breakage; and

23 (ii) 25%.

24 (2) From the 25% that the licensee deducts from the handle, 9% of the
25 handle shall be paid to the Commission, which shall send it to the Comptroller to be
26 credited to the Fair Hill Improvement Fund established in § 5-908 of the Natural Resources
27 Article.

28 (b) Money that remains after deductions are made under subsection (a) of this
29 section shall be returned as winnings to successful bettors.

30 11-705.

31 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "ARABIAN BREED HORSE" MEANS A HORSE THAT:

1 **(1) IS A PUREBRED ARABIAN BREED HORSE; AND**

2 **(2) HAS A VALID CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRY WITH THE ARABIAN**
3 **JOCKEY CLUB OF AMERICA.**

4 **(B) A LICENSEE AT THE FAIR HILL NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**
5 **AREA MAY CONDUCT LIVE RACING OF ARABIAN BREED HORSES IF:**

6 **(1) THE PURSE FOR AN ARABIAN BREED RACE IS FUNDED BY THE**
7 **LICENSEE OR THE SPONSOR OF THE RACE;**

8 **(2) THE TAKEOUT PROVISIONS OF § 11-704 OF THIS SUBTITLE APPLY**
9 **TO THE RACE;**

10 **(3) THE LICENSEE PAYS ALL TAXES AND FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE**
11 **ARABIAN BREED RACE THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE DUE ON A STEEPLECHASE,**
12 **HURDLE, OR FLAT RACE; AND**

13 **(4) THE ARABIAN BREED RACE IS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION.**

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