

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2016 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

House Bill 727  
Ways and Means

(Delegate West, *et al.*)

Finance

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**Horse Racing - Satellite Simulcast Betting - Public Hearing Requirements**

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This bill requires the Maryland Racing Commission (MRC) to hold a public hearing within 10 miles of a proposed satellite simulcast facility before granting a satellite simulcast betting permit. At least 30 days before the public hearing, MRC must advertise the hearing in a local publication, post notice of the hearing on its website, and require the applicant to post a sign at the proposed facility location giving notice of the pending application and public hearing. Written notice of the public hearing must be given to the senators, delegates, and elected county officials that represent the jurisdiction. MRC must request from the applicant a list of community associations that were notified of the public hearing.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** MRC can implement the bill with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Satellite simulcast betting is (1) pari-mutuel betting at a satellite simulcast facility in the State on a race that is simulcast from a sending track by a mile thoroughbred racing licensee, a harness racing licensee, or the State Fair Society and (2) transmission of the pari-mutuel information regarding bets at the satellite simulcast facility to the sending track. A person must have a permit granted by MRC to hold satellite simulcast betting.

MRC must conduct a personal and financial background check on an applicant and consider specified factors when granting permits.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 4, 2016  
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