
By: Delegate Morgan

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Horse Racing - Off-Track Facilities - County Approval**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that a satellite simulcast facility for pari-mutuel betting on
4 horse races be approved by the governing body of the county in which it is located
5 before beginning operations; providing for the application of this Act; and generally
6 relating to satellite simulcast facilities.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Business Regulation
9 Section 11-825(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1992 Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Business Regulation**

15 11-825.

16 (a) A satellite simulcast facility:

17 (1) shall be in premises owned or leased by a permit holder;

18 (2) TO BEGIN OPERATIONS, SHALL RECEIVE THE APPROVAL OF THE
19 GOVERNING BODY OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH IT IS LOCATED;

20 (3) may not be within a 35-mile radius of any mile thoroughbred track or
21 harness track unless approved by the track licensee, the group that represents a majority
22 of the applicable owners and trainers licensed in the State and the group that represents
23 a majority of the applicable breeders in the State, considered separately;

24 [(3)] (4) unless the track agrees otherwise, may not operate during hours on
25 those days that racing with pari-mutuel betting is permitted at a racetrack located in this
26 State within a 35-mile radius of the satellite simulcast facility; and

27 [(4)] (5) shall offer pari-mutuel betting facilities and amenities that the
28 Commission finds are:

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1 (i) comparable to those available in the sports palace facilities of the
2 mile thoroughbred racing licensees including:

3 1. high quality dining, lounge, and seating areas that are of a
4 manner generally found in fine restaurants; and

5 2. teletheatre screen capacity; and

6 (ii) appropriate for the area where the satellite simulcast facility is
7 located.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed
9 only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or
10 application to any satellite simulcast facility in operation before the effective date of this
11 Act.

12 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 1996.