

EMERGENCY BILL

C6

7lr2549

CF HB 226

By: Senators Lawlah and Currie

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 24, 1997

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harness Racing - Restriction on Racing Time**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a harness racing licensee from holding live harness racing
 4 after a certain time of day; specifying a certain exception to the prohibition; altering
 5 a certain restriction on holding racing after a certain time by a thoroughbred racing
 6 licensee; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to harness
 7 racing.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 9 Article - Business Regulation
 10 Section 11-504(a)
 11 Annotated Code of Maryland
 12 (1992 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 14 Article - Business Regulation
 15 Section 11-602
 16 Annotated Code of Maryland
 17 (1992 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

18 BY adding to
 19 Article - Business Regulation
 20 Section 11-606
 21 Annotated Code of Maryland
 22 (1992 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

3 **Article - Business Regulation**

4 11-504.

5 (a) A licensee may not hold racing after 6:15 p.m. unless:

6 (1) circumstances beyond the control of the licensee cause a delay; [or]

7 (2) the racing day is of national prominence; OR

8 (3) THE RACING CONSISTS OF BETTING ON RACES HELD AT AN
9 OUT-OF-STATE TRACK, AND THE RACING IS:

10 (I) AUTHORIZED UNDER § 11-804 OF THIS TITLE; AND

11 (II) APPROVED BY THE HARNESS TRACK LICENSEE WHOSE TRACK
12 IS CLOSEST TO THE LICENSEE'S TRACK, THE GROUP THAT REPRESENTS A MAJORITY
13 OF THE OWNERS AND TRAINERS WHO RACE HORSES AT THAT HARNESS TRACK, AND
14 THE GROUP THAT REPRESENTS A MAJORITY OF THE HARNESS BREEDERS IN THIS
15 STATE.

16 11-602.

17 This subtitle applies only to harness racing licenses and to licensees who have been
18 awarded racing days to hold harness racing.

19 11-606.

20 A LICENSEE MAY NOT HOLD LIVE HARNESS RACING AFTER 2 A.M. UNLESS
21 CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE LICENSEE CAUSE A DELAY.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act ~~shall take effect~~
23 ~~October 1, 1997~~ is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of
24 the public health and safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by
25 three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General
26 Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.