

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 559 (Senators Lawlah and Currie)
Finance

Referred to Ways and Means

Intertrack Betting - Ocean Downs - Live Racing Days

This amended bill reduces the number of live racing days required for Ocean Downs to qualify as a receiving track for intertrack betting purposes from 65 to 40.

This bill is effective June 1, 1997.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund revenue of \$60,000 will continue in FY 1998. Expenditures would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. This bill would not directly affect small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: Under current law, Ocean Downs must hold at least 65 days of live racing in order to qualify as a receiving track for intertrack betting purposes. In calendar year 1996, only 40 live racing days were held. The track is permitted to be a receiving track in 1997 because the State Racing Commission deemed the advent of slot machines in Delaware and the general financial condition of Ocean Downs an emergency. Ocean Downs, however, is only planning on holding 40 days of live racing in calendar 1997 and 1998.

About \$12 million was bet on intertrack betting at Ocean Downs in 1996, resulting in \$60,000 of revenue. Thus, by lowering the requirement of live racing days to 40, about \$12 million will continue to be bet at Ocean Downs, resulting in a continuation of \$60,000 of special fund revenue.

Information Source(s): Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (State Racing Commission); Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 11, 1997
ncs Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 25, 1997

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