

HOUSE BILL 1200
EMERGENCY BILL

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C6

1998 Regular Session
8r1890

By: **Cecil County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County Breeders' Fair, Inc.**

3 FOR the purpose of adding a track where racing is conducted by the Cecil County
4 Breeders' Fair, Inc., or its successor to the list of tracks eligible to serve as a
5 sending track or receiving track for purposes of intertrack betting and satellite
6 simulcast betting; defining a certain term; making this Act an emergency
7 measure; and generally relating to intertrack betting and satellite simulcast
8 betting conducted by the Cecil County Breeders' Fair, Inc.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

10 Article - Business Regulation

11 Section 11-811 and 11-815(c)

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (1992 Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Business Regulation**

17 11-811.

18 (a) (1) In this section[,] THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
19 INDICATED.

20 (2) "FAIR HILL" MEANS THE CECIL COUNTY BREEDERS' FAIR, INC.,
21 OR ITS SUCCESSOR.

22 (3) "State Fair Society" means the Maryland State Fair and
23 Agricultural Society, Inc.

24 (b) This section applies only to intertrack betting in which:

25 (1) the sending track is equipped to transmit simulcast races and is:

26 (i) a mile thoroughbred track;

- 1 (ii) a harness track; [or]
2 (III) A TRACK WHERE RACING IS CONDUCTED BY FAIR HILL; OR
3 [(iii)] (IV) a track where racing is conducted by the State Fair
4 Society; and

5 (2) the receiving track is:

- 6 (i) equipped to receive simulcast races and hold intertrack betting
7 on those races; and
8 (ii) one of the tracks specified in item (1) of this subsection.

9 (c) The Commission may authorize intertrack betting involving tracks of:

- 10 (1) mile thoroughbred racing licensees;
11 (2) harness racing licensees; [or]
12 (3) FAIR HILL; OR
13 [(3)] (4) the State Fair Society.

14 (d) The Commission may authorize licensees[or], FAIR HILL, OR the State
15 Fair Society to participate in intertrack betting by operating sending tracks and
16 receiving tracks only if:

- 17 (1) the operators of the sending track and the receiving track submit a
18 joint application to the Commission;
19 (2) the Commission holds a public hearing on the matter;
20 (3) the operator of the receiving track shows to the satisfaction of the
21 Commission that the operator has held, is holding, or will hold regularly scheduled
22 race meetings at the receiving track in accordance with a license and has complied
23 with the terms of the license; and
24 (4) the receiving track meets the requirements of subsection (e) of this
25 section, unless the Commission has waived them, and subsection (f) of this section.

26 (e) (1) Laurel Race Course, a track where racing is conducted by the State
27 Fair Society, FAIR HILL, or Rosecroft Raceway may be a receiving track only if live
28 racing was held there in the previous calendar year on at least 75% of the racing days
29 available to it.

30 (2) Ocean Downs may be a receiving track only if at least 40 days of live
31 racing were held there in the previous calendar year.

32 (3) Pimlico Race Course may be a receiving track only if at least 90 days
33 of live racing were held there in the previous calendar year.

1 (4) The Commission may waive a requirement of this subsection if the
2 receiving track could not meet the requirement because of:

3 (i) an act of God; or

4 (ii) what the Commission finds to be an emergency.

5 (f) (1) Intertrack betting may be held only if the organizations specified in
6 this subsection approve the agreement between the receiving track and the sending
7 track to simulcast races.

8 (2) If the sending track is a mile thoroughbred track or a track where
9 racing is conducted by the State Fair Society OR FAIR HILL, approval shall be by an
10 organization representing:

11 (i) a majority of the owners and trainers at the sending track; and

12 (ii) a majority of the thoroughbred breeders in the State.

13 (3) If the sending track is a harness track, approval shall be by an
14 organization representing:

15 (i) a majority of the owners, trainers, and drivers of standardbred
16 horses at the sending track; and

17 (ii) a majority of the standardbred breeders in the State.

18 (4) If the receiving track is a mile thoroughbred track or a track where
19 racing is conducted by the State Fair Society OR FAIR HILL, approval shall be by an
20 organization representing:

21 (i) a majority of the owners and trainers at the receiving track; and

22 (ii) a majority of the thoroughbred breeders in the State.

23 (5) If the receiving track is a harness track, approval shall be by an
24 organization representing:

25 (i) a majority of the owners, trainers, and drivers of standardbred
26 horses at the harness track; and

27 (ii) a majority of the standardbred breeders in the State.

28 (g) (1) The simulcast signal shall be encoded.

29 (2) The licensee of the receiving track may not transmit the simulcast
30 signal beyond the premises where pari-mutuel betting is allowed.

31 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, if a track
32 where racing is conducted by the State Fair Society is within the 35-mile radius of a
33 mile thoroughbred track, it shall first obtain the concurrence of that mile

1 thoroughbred track before it may be a receiving track during a period of time when
2 the State Fair Society is not licensed to conduct live racing.

3 11-815.

4 (c) "Satellite simulcast betting" means:

5 (1) pari-mutuel betting at a satellite simulcast facility in the State on a
6 race that is simulcast from a sending track by a mile thoroughbred racing licensee, a
7 harness racing licensee, FAIR HILL, or the State Fair Society; and

8 (2) transmission of the pari-mutuel information regarding bets at the
9 satellite simulcast facility to the sending track.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
11 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety,
12 has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members
13 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from
14 the date it is enacted.