

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

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 27, 1998

CHAPTER _____

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 ~~simuleast betting~~; defining a certain term; providing that a certain track may be
7 a sending track only on days when a certain organization is licensed to conduct
8 and actually conducts live racing; making this Act an emergency measure; and
9 generally relating to intertrack betting ~~and satellite simuleast betting~~ conducted
10 by the Cecil County Breeders' Fair, Inc.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Business Regulation
13 Section 11-811 ~~and 11-815(e)~~
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1992 Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Business Regulation**

19 11-811.

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

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

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

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

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

7 (i) a mile thoroughbred track;

8 (ii) a harness track; [or]

9 (III) A TRACK WHERE RACING IS CONDUCTED BY FAIR HILL; OR

10 [(iii)] (IV) a track where racing is conducted by the State Fair
11 Society; and

12 (2) the receiving track is:

13 (i) equipped to receive simulcast races and hold intertrack betting
14 on those races; and

15 (ii) one of the tracks specified in item (1) of this subsection.

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

17 (1) mile thoroughbred racing licensees;

18 (2) harness racing licensees; [or]

19 (3) FAIR HILL; OR

20 [(3)] (4) the State Fair Society.

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

24 (1) the operators of the sending track and the receiving track submit a
25 joint application to the Commission;

26 (2) the Commission holds a public hearing on the matter;

27 (3) the operator of the receiving track shows to the satisfaction of the
28 Commission that the operator has held, is holding, or will hold regularly scheduled
29 race meetings at the receiving track in accordance with a license and has complied
30 with the terms of the license; and

1 (4) the receiving track meets the requirements of subsection (e) of this
2 section, unless the Commission has waived them, and subsection (f) of this section.

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

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

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

11 (4) A TRACK WHERE RACING IS CONDUCTED BY FAIR HILL MAY BE A
12 SENDING TRACK ONLY ON DAYS WHEN FAIR HILL IS LICENSED TO CONDUCT AND
13 ACTUALLY CONDUCTS LIVE RACING.

14 (5) The Commission may waive a requirement of this subsection if the
15 receiving track could not meet the requirement because of:

16 (i) an act of God; or

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, if a track
11 where racing is conducted by the State Fair Society is within the 35-mile radius of a
12 mile thoroughbred track, it shall first obtain the concurrence of that mile
13 thoroughbred track before it may be a receiving track during a period of time when
14 the State Fair Society is not licensed to conduct live racing.

15 ~~11-815-~~

16 (e) ~~"Satellite simulcast betting" means:~~

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

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

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