

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 730 (Delegate Bozman. *et al.*)

Ways and Means

Harness Racing - Racing Days

This bill authorizes the Maryland Racing Commission to award up to the number of harness racing days requested by an applicant for a harness racing license and repeals the current law limitations that specify no more than 310 racing days per licensee and no more than 620 racing days for all licensees.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate increase in general fund revenues. No effect on expenditures.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: To the extent that more racing days are authorized, general fund revenues would increase from the State wagering tax on the handle (that is, the total money bet). The State wagering tax rate for fiscal 2000 is 0.32%. According to the Maryland Racing Commission, the total handle in fiscal 2000 is estimated to be around \$550 million, which results in about \$1.8 million in estimated wagering tax revenues in fiscal 2000.

Any increase in administrative expenditures as a result of the bill could be handled with existing resources.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 11, 1999
ncs/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 30, 1999
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Analysis by: Lina Walker

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510