

HOUSE BILL 1055

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C6

2000 Regular Session  
0lr2458  
CF 0lr2538

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By: **Delegates Hixson and C. Davis**  
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Horse Racing - Purse Fund Enhancement**

3 FOR the purpose of creating a certain fund; requiring that certain lottery revenues for  
4 a certain fiscal year be distributed to a special fund to be used only for certain  
5 purposes; requiring that the purses and bred funds be increased according to a  
6 certain formula; providing for the effective date and termination of this Act; and  
7 generally relating to horse racing in the State.

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
9 MARYLAND, That:

10 (a) Notwithstanding § 9-120 of the State Government Article, after  
11 cumulative distributions of revenues from the State Lottery for fiscal year 2000 to the  
12 General Fund under § 9-120(b)(1)(ii) of the State Government Article total  
13 \$366,813,000, \$10,000,000 of the remaining revenue that would otherwise be paid to  
14 the General Fund under § 9-120(b)(1)(ii) of the State Government Article shall be  
15 distributed to a special fund that shall be created to be used only to increase purses at  
16 harness racing tracks, mile thoroughbred tracks, and Timonium Race Course and to  
17 supplement existing bred funds in accordance with this Act.

18 (b) If lottery revenues do not provide the \$10,000,000 for the purposes  
19 specified in subsection (a) of this section, the Governor may request a deficiency  
20 appropriation during the 2001 Session to make up the difference.

21 (c) In accordance with § 7-209 of the State Finance and Procurement Article,  
22 the Governor by budgetary amendment shall allocate money from the special fund  
23 created under subsection (a) of this section in the manner specified under subsection  
24 (d) of this section.

25 (d) The amount credited to the special fund created under subsection (a) of  
26 this section shall be used as follows:

27 (1) 11% to increase the bred funds to be allocated as follows:

28 (i) 70% to the Maryland-Bred Race Fund; and

29 (ii) 30% to the Maryland Standardbred Race Fund; and

1                   (2)       89% to increase purses at harness racing tracks and thoroughbred  
2 racing tracks to be allocated as follows:

3                   (i)       70% to purses at the mile thoroughbred racing tracks and  
4 Timonium; and

5                   (ii)       30% to purses at the harness racing tracks which shall be  
6 allocated 85% for Rosecroft Raceway and 15% for Ocean Downs.

7       (e)       All funds provided for purses and bred funds at harness racing tracks, mile  
8 thoroughbred racing tracks, and Timonium Race Course by this Act shall be in  
9 addition to and may not supplant:

10               (1)       Amounts allocated for purses and bred funds under current  
11 agreements between the harness racing tracks and the organization that represents a  
12 majority of owners and trainers of standardbred horses in the State; and

13               (2)       Amounts otherwise provided in statute for purses and bred funds at  
14 mile thoroughbred racing tracks and Timonium Race Course.

15       (f)       The purses shall be distributed at mile thoroughbred racetracks and  
16 Timonium Race Course according to a formula determined by the State Racing  
17 Commission in consultation with the racetrack licensees and the organization that  
18 represents a majority of owners and trainers of thoroughbred horses in the State.

19       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
20 effect June 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at  
21 the end of June 30, 2001, with no further action required by the General Assembly,  
22 this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.