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By: **Chairman, Finance Committee (By Request - Departmental - Labor,
       Licensing and Regulation)**
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2003
Rules suspended
Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 12, 2003

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CHAPTER_____

1 AN ACT concerning

2   **Harness Racing - Licensees - Takeout Allocation**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing a harness track licensee's share of the takeout relating
4   to purses and the Maryland Standardbred Race Fund to be allocated in
5   accordance with a certain agreement; requiring that certain persons sign the
6   agreement; declaring that this Act may not be construed to allow alteration of
7   certain takeout allocations; and generally relating to harness track licensees.

8 BY adding to
9   Article - Business Regulation
10   Section 11-617.1
11   Annotated Code of Maryland
12   (1998 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

15   **Article - Business Regulation**

16 11-617.1.

17   (A)   NOTWITHSTANDING § 11-617 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE AMOUNT OF THE
18 TAKEOUT RELATING TO PURSES AND THE MARYLAND STANDARDBRED RACE FUND
19 FROM THE SHARE RETAINED BY A HARNESS TRACK LICENSEE MAY BE ALLOCATED
20 IN ACCORDANCE WITH A WRITTEN AGREEMENT SIGNED BY:

1   (1)   THE LICENSEE;

2   (2)   THE GROUP THAT REPRESENTS A MAJORITY OF THE STANDARDBRED
3 OWNERS AND TRAINERS LICENSED IN THE STATE AT THE TIME THE AGREEMENT IS
4 SIGNED; AND

5   (3)   THE GROUP THAT REPRESENTS A MAJORITY OF THE STANDARDBRED
6 BREEDERS IN THE STATE AT THE TIME THE AGREEMENT IS SIGNED.

7   (B)   NOTHING IN THIS SECTION MAY BE CONSTRUED TO PERMIT THE
8 LICENSEE TO ALTER THE MANDATORY TAKEOUT ALLOCATED TO THE COMMISSION
9 FOR:

10   (1)   THE STATE TAX; OR

11   (2)   THE PAYMENT TO THE RACING FACILITY REDEVELOPMENT BOND
12 FUND FOR THE MARYLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

13   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
14 effect October 1, 2003.