

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 230
Ways and Means

(Delegate Rudolph)

Finance

Horse Racing at Fair Hill - Cecil County Breeders' Fair, Inc. - Takeout

This bill increases from 22% to 25% the takeout that the Cecil County Breeders' Fair, Inc., or its successor must deduct from the handle for races held at the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area. From the 25% takeout, the bill increases from 8% to 9% the amount that is paid to the Racing Commission to be credited to the Fair Hill Improvement Fund.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2005.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal increase in Fair Hill Improvement Fund revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The Cecil County Breeders' Fair, Inc., or its successor must deduct 22% from the handle for races held at the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area. From that 22%, 8% is required to be paid into the Fair Hill Improvement Fund.

The Fair Hill Improvement Fund is used for the operation, maintenance, development, and improvement of the Fair Hill facilities at Fair Hill, Maryland.

State Fiscal Effect: Increasing the amount of the takeout that must be deducted from the handle and increasing the amount of the handle, from 8% to 9%, for races held at the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area would increase the amount of revenue that is distributed to the Fair Hill Improvement Fund. The proposed fiscal 2006 budget assumes that the Fair Hill Improvement Fund would receive \$13,000 from races at the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area. Additional revenue for the fund resulting from the change made by the bill depends on the handle of races at Fair Hill, but is assumed to be minimal.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 460 (Cecil County Senators) – Finance.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 28, 2005
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