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By: **Senator Della**

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2006

Assigned to: Finance

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Thoroughbred Racing - Restrictions on Night and Sunday Racing - Repeal**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing certain restrictions on holding live thoroughbred racing  
4 at night and on Sundays by mile thoroughbred racing licensees; repealing a  
5 certain restriction on holding Sunday racing by the Maryland State Fair and  
6 Agricultural Society, Inc.; and generally relating to thoroughbred racing.

7 BY repealing

8 Article - Business Regulation

9 Section 11-504

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Business Regulation**

15 [11-504.

16 (a) (1) A licensee may hold live racing after 6:15 p.m. but not later than 9:00  
17 p.m. if:

18 (i) circumstances beyond the control of the licensee cause a delay;

19 (ii) the racing day is of national prominence; or

20 (iii) the racing is approved by the harness track licensee whose  
21 track is closest to the licensee's track, the group that represents a majority of the  
22 owners and trainers who race horses at that harness track, and the group that  
23 represents a majority of the harness breeders in this State.

24 (2) A licensee may hold racing after 6:15 p.m. that consists of betting on  
25 races held at an out-of-state track, if the racing is:

26 (i) authorized under § 11-804 of this title; and

1                   (ii)       approved by the harness track licensee whose track is closest to  
2 the licensee's track, the group that represents a majority of the owners and trainers  
3 who race horses at that harness track, and the group that represents a majority of the  
4 harness breeders in this State.

5                   (3)       Notwithstanding any approval for racing after 6:15 p.m., electrical or  
6 artificial illumination, necessary for the purpose of holding live racing, may not be  
7 permitted at Pimlico Race Course.

8                   (4)       Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) or (2) of this  
9 subsection, a licensee in Allegany County may hold live or simulcast racing after 6:15  
10 p.m., but not later than 11:30 p.m., unless circumstances beyond the control of the  
11 licensee cause a delay.

12       (b)       (1)       Mile thoroughbred racing may not be held on a Sunday unless:

13                   (i)       the Commission approves; and

14                   (ii)       the racing begins at noon or later.

15                   (2)       The Maryland State Fair and Agricultural Society, Inc., may not hold  
16 a race on a Sunday except during the Maryland State Fair.]

17       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 June 1, 2006.