

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

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(PRE-FILED)

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CF 9lr0361

By: **Senator Middleton**

Requested: November 14, 2008

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2009

Assigned to: Finance

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **The Jim McKay Maryland Million**

3 FOR the purpose of urging the Maryland Million LTD to rename the day of racing
4 known as the Maryland Million in memory of Jim McKay, rename a certain
5 trophy in memory of Jim McKay, and continue to sponsor Maryland Million
6 races annually at Laurel Park, except under certain circumstances; and
7 generally relating to the dedication of the Maryland Million to the memory of
8 Jim McKay.

9 Preamble

10 WHEREAS, For 23 years, the Maryland Million has been the Maryland horse
11 racing event second only in importance to the Preakness Stakes and is among the
12 premier sire stakes events in the nation; and

13 WHEREAS, The Maryland Million is a festive event featuring races for
14 nominated horses sired by stallions who stand in Maryland and are themselves
15 nominated to the Maryland Million; and

16 WHEREAS, Evidence of the success of the Maryland Million is that since the
17 event was founded in 1986, 22 other states have created special racing days for
18 state-bred or state-sired horses; and

19 WHEREAS, Legendary sportscaster Jim McKay, whose favorite sport was horse
20 racing, was a member of the Jockey Club, horse racing's governing body, and the
21 recipient of many horse racing awards; and

22 WHEREAS, Jim McKay was a long-time, great friend of Maryland racing; and

23 WHEREAS, The Maryland Million was founded by Jim McKay, who not only
24 conceived the idea but who also raised money, solicited sponsorships, and spent
25 countless hours to win the backing of stallion owners to make the event a reality; and



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1 WHEREAS, A fitting and lasting tribute to Jim McKay would be to dedicate the
2 Maryland Million in his memory; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
4 General Assembly urges the Maryland Million LTD to:

5 (1) rename the Maryland Million as the Jim McKay Maryland Million;

6 (2) rename the winner's trophy awarded in the Maryland Million
7 Classic Race in memory of Jim McKay; and

8 (3) continue to sponsor annually the Maryland Million races at Laurel
9 Park, unless:

10 (i) the horse racing licensee is prevented from conducting the
11 races by weather, an act of God, or other circumstances beyond the control of the
12 licensee; or

13 (ii) the horse racing licensee and the Maryland Million LTD
14 agree to another location that is approved by the State Racing Commission; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
17 Legislative Services to the Honorable Martin O'Malley, Governor of Maryland; the
18 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the
19 Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and Wayne A.
20 Harrison, President of Maryland Million LTD, P.O. Box 427, Timonium, Maryland
21 21094.