

JOINT RESOLUTION 1

(Senate Joint Resolution 2)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

The Jim McKay Maryland Million

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

Preamble

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- (1) rename the Maryland Million as the Jim McKay Maryland Million;
- (2) rename the winner's trophy awarded in the Maryland Million Classic Race in memory of Jim McKay; and
- (3) continue to sponsor annually the Maryland Million races at Laurel Park, unless:
 - (i) the horse racing licensee is prevented from conducting the races by weather, an act of God, or other circumstances beyond the control of the licensee; or
 - (ii) the horse racing licensee and the Maryland Million LTD agree to another location that is approved by the State Racing Commission; and be it further

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

Signed by the President and the Speaker, May 7, 2009.