

---

## OHIO STATE RACING COMMISSION

- Eliminates the requirement that the Governor, State Racing Commission, and necessary parties discuss, negotiate, and reach an agreement for providing annual \$500,000 payments to certain municipal corporations or townships in which a racetrack is located.
- Requires each municipal corporation or township to receive \$1 million over the next two fiscal years with half from the Casino Operator Settlement Fund and half from the permit holder of the racetrack.
- Removes a provision prohibiting the maximum number of live racing days for any permit holder from exceeding 210.
- Removes a provision that prohibits simulcast hosts from conducting pari-mutuel wagering on certain simulcast racing programs if certain live harness horse racing programs are being conducted at a nearby track.
- Eliminates the Ohio Quarter Horse Development Fund and specifies that funds currently paid into the Fund instead must be paid into the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund to support quarter horse development and purses.
- Increases the amount of moneys paid to the Tax Commissioner by thoroughbred racing permit holders that the Tax Commissioner must pay into the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund.
- Abolishes the Ohio Quarter Horse Development Commission.
- Requires the State Racing Commission to adopt rules regarding the maintenance and use of money collected for quarter horse development and purses.

### **Payments to eligible entities with video lottery terminal facilities**

(Sections 610.32 and 610.33)

The bill limits payments and specifies funding sources for payments to municipal corporations and townships in which racetracks with video lottery terminals



are located. Under the bill, each eligible entity<sup>197</sup> must receive a total of \$1 million in the following manner:

--By December 31, 2015:

--The Director of Budget and Management must pay \$250,000 to each eligible entity from the Casino Operator Settlement Fund.<sup>198</sup>

--The permit holder of a track located in an eligible entity must pay \$250,000 to the eligible entity.

--By December 31, 2016:

-- The Director of Budget and Management must pay \$250,000 to each eligible entity from the Casino Operator Settlement Fund.

--The permit holder of a track located in an eligible entity must pay \$250,000 to the eligible entity.

The bill eliminates the requirement that the Governor, State Racing Commission, and necessary parties discuss, negotiate, and reach an agreement for providing \$500,000 payments to certain municipal corporations or townships in which a racetrack is located. Under current law, the first payment was to have been made by December 31, 2014, and annually thereafter.

---

<sup>197</sup> "Eligible entity" means the municipal corporation or township in which more than 50% of the real property of a commercial racetrack was located on June 11, 2012, or a municipal corporation or township to which more than 50% of the real property of a commercial racetrack is to relocate. The law excludes a municipal corporation or township in a county with a population between 1.1 million and 1.2 million (Franklin County) from receiving the payments and limits payments to not more than six municipal corporations or townships: Anderson Township in Hamilton County; Austintown Township in Mahoning County; City of Dayton in Montgomery County; Turtlecreek Township in Warren County; Village of Northfield in Summit County; and Village of North Randall in Cuyahoga County (Section 10 of H.B. 386 of the 129th General Assembly, as subsequently amended).

<sup>198</sup> The Casino Operator Settlement Fund is in the state treasury and receives any money paid to the state by the casino operators in excess of any required licenses, fees, or taxes. The Fund can be used for activities related to workforce development, economic development, job creation, training, education, food banks, and expenses (R.C. 3772.34, not in the bill).

## **Live racing days**

(R.C. 3769.089(B))

For horse racing tracks with video lottery terminals, the bill eliminates maximum racing days. In this regard, the bill removes the prohibition that maximum number of live racing days for any permit holder must not exceed 210 racing days. The bill also removes the provision that allows an agreement, subject to the State Racing Commission's approval, to increase the number of live racing days to a number that is greater than the permitted maximum.

## **Simulcast racing**

(R.C. 3769.089(D))

The bill removes a provision of current law that provides that if a simulcast host conducts a racing program that features thoroughbred or quarter horses on the same day that another simulcast host conducts a live harness horse racing program at a track located in the same county as, or within 20 miles of, the first simulcast host's track, the first simulcast host must not conduct pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast racing programs that begin after 4 p.m. on that day and the second simulcast host must not conduct wagering on simulcast racing programs that begin before 3 p.m. on that day.

## **Quarter Horse Development Fund**

(R.C. 3769.03, 3769.08, 3769.083, 3769.086 (repealed), 3769.087, and 3769.101; Section 803.210)

The bill eliminates the Ohio Quarter Horse Development Fund, the current purpose of which is to "advance and improve the breeding of racing quarter horses in Ohio." The funds currently paid into the Fund, five-eighths of one percent of moneys wagered, beginning January 1, 2016, instead must be paid into the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund to support quarter horse development and purses.

Beginning January 1, 2016, the bill increases the amount of additional moneys retained and paid to the Tax Commissioner by thoroughbred racing permit holders, from one-twelfth to one-sixth, that the Tax Commissioner must pay into the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund.

The Quarter Horse Development Commission, which currently administers the Quarter Horse Development Fund, is eliminated by the bill. The State Racing Commission is required to adopt rules regarding the maintenance and use of money collected for quarter horse development and purses.

