

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
LA: KSN
File Name: G:\COMMITTEES\ACF\Amendments\130th 1st\085302.docx
LR (item)#: 0850302
New Title?: N
Add Emergency?:
Date: May 18, 2021

Majority Report
OTP-A
(Minority Report ONTP)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT TO LD 1611, AN ACT TO AMEND MAINE'S HARNESS RACING LAWS REGARDING RACE DATES AND PARI-MUTUEL POOLS

Amend the bill in section 3 as follows:

Sec. 3. 8 MRSA §275-B, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Facilities approved by commission. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, a person licensed pursuant to section 271 to conduct harness horse racing with pari-mutuel betting may sell pari-mutuel pools and common pari-mutuel pools for simulcast races at a facility that is if approved by the commission under this subsection. The commission may approve a facility under this subsection only if it is located within the same county as the commercial track where the race or races are conducted, is not located within the same municipality as an off-track betting facility licensed under section 275-D and the municipality where it is located approves of the facility being allowed to sell pari-mutuel pools or common pari-mutuel pools. A facility that receives approval under this subsection must provide the municipality in which the facility is located 5% of the track share of the commission allocated by Title 8, section 286, subsection 5. and located within:

A. Twenty-five miles of the racetrack where the licensed race or race meet is conducted; and

B. A municipality with a population greater than 55,000, based on the 2010 U.S. Census.

A person authorized to sell pari-mutuel pools and common pari-mutuel pools for simulcast races at a facility under this subsection may conduct at the facility any other activities incidental to and permitted by that license under section 271.

This subsection is repealed on January 1, 2024.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report, strikes the requirement that a facility that is approved by the commission be located within 25 miles of the racetrack where the licensed

race or race meet is conducted and within a municipality with a population greater than 55,000. Instead, the amendment provides that a facility approved by the commission must be within the same county as the commercial track but not within the same municipality as an off-track betting facility. The amendment also provides that a facility must obtain municipal approval prior to the sale of the pari-mutuel pools or common pari-mutuel pools and must provide the municipality in which the facility is located 5% of the track share of the commission allocated by Title 8, section 286, subsection 5.