

HOUSE No. 154

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Garrett J. Bradley

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to thoroughbred horse racing.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Garrett J. Bradley

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

3rd Plymouth

HOUSE No. 154

By Mr. Bradley of Hingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 154) of Garrett J. Bradley relative to thoroughbred horse racing. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)

An Act relative to thoroughbred horse racing.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding section 2 of chapter 128A of the General Laws and
2 sections 1, 2 and 2A of chapter 128C of the General Laws or any other general or special law,
3 rule or regulation to the contrary, the running horse meeting licensee located in Suffolk county
4 licensed to conduct live racing pursuant to said chapter 128A and simulcast wagering pursuant to
5 said chapter 128C in calendar year 2014 shall remain licensed as a running horse racing meeting
6 licensee until December 31, 2016 provided, that the days between January 1 and December 31 of
7 each year shall be dark days pursuant to said chapter 128C; said licensee shall be precluded from
8 conducting live racing during that period.

9 The running horse meeting placeholder licensee licensed to conduct live racing pursuant
10 to said chapter 128A in calendar year 2015 shall remain licensed as a running horse racing
11 meeting licensee until December 31, 2016 provided, that the days between January 1 and
12 December 31 of each year shall be live race days or dark days pursuant to said chapter 128C;
13 said licensee shall not be precluded from conducting live racing during that period; provided

14 further, that said licensee shall not be required to conduct any live racing to remain authorized to
15 conduct simulcast wagering pursuant to said chapter 128C.

16 The running horse meeting licensee located in Suffolk county licensed to conduct live
17 racing pursuant to said chapter 128A and simulcast wagering pursuant to said chapter 128C in
18 calendar year 2014 and the running horse meeting placeholder licensee licensed to conduct live
19 racing pursuant to said chapter 128A in calendar year 2015 shall conduct simulcast wagering
20 pursuant to chapter 128C; provided that all simulcasts shall comply with the Interstate Horse
21 Racing Act of 1978, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 3001 et seq. or other applicable federal law; provided
22 further, that all simulcasts from states which have racing associations that do not require
23 approval in compliance with the Interstate Horse Racing Act of 1978, 15 U.S.C. Sec.
24 3004(a)(1)(A), shall require the approval of the New England Horsemen's Benevolent &
25 Protective Association prior to being simulcast to a racing meeting licensee within the
26 commonwealth; and provided further, that if the association agrees to approve the simulcast for
27 1 racing meeting licensee, it shall approve the simulcast for all otherwise eligible racing meeting
28 licensees.

29 The running horse meeting licensee located in Suffolk county licensed to conduct live
30 racing pursuant to said chapter 128A and simulcast wagering pursuant to said chapter 128C in
31 calendar year 2014 and the greyhound dog racing meeting licensee located in Suffolk county and
32 the greyhound dog racing meeting licensee located in Bristol county and the harness horse racing
33 meeting licensee located in Norfolk county shall simulcast the racing cards of the running horse
34 meeting placeholder licensee licensed to conduct live racing pursuant to said chapter 128A in
35 calendar year 2015 and 2016 and shall pay a fee of 11 per cent for the intrastate racing cards, and

36 shall pay a 3 per cent premium with respect to any interstate running horse simulcasts received,
37 over and above the costs of obtaining such simulcasts.

38 SECTION 2. Chapter 128A of the General Laws is hereby amended in Section 5(c)(3) in
39 the third sentence by inserting after the words “payment of purses” the following “and
40 administrative and horseracing operations with the approval of the appropriate horseman’s
41 association representing the horse owners racing at that race track.”

42 SECTION 3. Chapter 128C of the General Laws is hereby amended in Section 4 in the
43 third paragraph by inserting after the words “for purses” the following:- “administrative and
44 horse racing operations with the approval of the appropriate horseman’s association representing
45 the horse owners racing at that race track” And is hereby further amended in the fourth
46 paragraph by inserting after the words “for purses” the following words:- “and administrative
47 and horse racing operations with the approval of the appropriate horseman’s association
48 representing the horse owners racing at that race track”.

49 SECTION 4. Chapter 194 of the Acts of 2011 is hereby amended by striking the words
50 “provided, however, that no such payments shall be made after June 30, 2014” and replacing
51 with the following:- “provided, payments made after June 30, 2014 shall then be distributed to
52 the New England Horsemen’s Benevolent & Protective Association to support live thoroughbred
53 racing in Massachusetts.”

54 SECTION 5. Section 1 is hereby repealed.

55 SECTION 6. Section 5 shall take effect on January 1, 2017.