



Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee

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Chairman

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October 19, 2016

House Bill: 2303

Printers Number: 3962

Prime Sponsor: CAUSER

SYNOPSIS

Repeals the Race Horse Industry Reform article in the Administrative Code, inserts it in the Agriculture Code and provides for PA Breeding Fund awards.

BILL SUMMARY

HB 2303 repeals the Race Horse Industry Reform article from the Administrative Code and inserts it as Chapter 93 in Title 3, Agriculture. All language remains the same as that which went into effect on February 23, 2016 (that created the horse racing article in the Administrative Code) with the exception of the Pennsylvania Breeders Fund section, which is now Section 9336.

For the remainder of 2016 and retroactive to February 23, 2016, awards to breeders and owners of certain winning race horses will be distributed as was historically done prior to February 23, 2016. Beginning January 1, 2017, awards to breeders of winning (1st, 2nd, 3rd) PA Bred horses sired by PA sires are increased from 30% to 40% of the purse. Awards to breeders of winning (1st, 2nd, 3rd) PA Bred horses not sired by a PA sire remain at 20% of the purse. Awards to owners of PA sires of winning (1st, 2nd, 3rd) PA Bred horses remain at 10% of the purse. A little-earned award to owners of PA Bred horses winning first in a non-restricted race has been eliminated.

Beginning January 1, 2017, in any year there is at least \$10 million more in the PA Breeding Fund than what was deposited to it in 2016, remaining funds (after breeder and stallion awards are distributed and administrative costs associated with managing the PA Breeding Fund are paid) will go to the tracks, in proportion to the rate the tracks generated the funds in the previous year, and will be used for purses for owners as follows:

- 50% to owner bonus or to pay purses for races restricted to PA Bred/PA sired horses.
- 50% to owner bonus or to pay purses for races restricted to PA Bred horses.
- In all claiming and nonclaiming races which prefer PA Breds, if eight or more PA Breds enter the race, then the race becomes closed to non-PA Bred horses.

Effective Date: Immediately

CURRENT LAW

Act 7 of 2016 added Article XXVIII-D to the Administrative Code (Act 175 of 1929) to provide for Race Horse Industry Reform. It repealed Act 135 of 1981, Race Horse Industry Reform Act.