ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1097

By: Stites and Glover of the House

and

Dickerson of the Senate

(Oklahoma Horse Racing Act - amending 3A O.S., Section 203.4 - compensation of certain track personnel - effective date - emergency)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 3A O.S. 1991, Section 203.4, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 370, O.S.L. 1998 (3A O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 203.4), is amended to read as follows:

Section 203.4 A. ~~1.~~ At each pari-mutuel race meeting held pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission shall employ three individuals to be stewards. At non-pari-mutuel race meetings and for training races, the organization licensee may employ its own stewards in accordance with the rules of the American Quarter Horse Association or have the Commission employ the stewards as provided in this subsection. The Commission shall designate one of the individuals as chief steward and the other two individuals as assistant stewards. If employed by the Commission, the compensation of the stewards, including but not limited to salaries, benefits and other reimbursable expenses as determined by the Commission, shall be paid by the Commission ~~and the Commission shall be reimbursed by the organization licensee. Said reimbursed funds shall be deposited by~~

~~the Commission to the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury~~.

~~2. Reimbursement of the Commission by the organization licensee pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be suspended for two (2) years, effective July 1, 1997.~~

B. ~~1.~~ All other racing personnel shall be employed for race meetings as the Commission deems necessary. All other racing personnel required by the Commission at non-pari-mutuel race meetings or training races may be employed by the organization licensee in accordance with the rules of the American Quarter Horse Association. The compensation of racing personnel employed by the Commission, including but not limited to salaries, benefits and reimbursable expenses, shall be paid by the Commission ~~and, except for license clerks, the Commission shall be reimbursed by the organization licensee. Said reimbursed funds shall be deposited by the Commission to the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury~~.

~~2. Reimbursement of the Commission by the organization licensee pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be suspended for two (2) years, effective July 1, 1997.~~

C. The stewards and other racing officials at pari-mutuel race meetings, at non-pari-mutuel race meetings and at training races shall enforce the rules and regulations of the Commission and the provisions of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Act in the manner provided by law and shall render written reports of the activities and conduct of the race meetings to the Commission. In enforcing the rules of the Commission and officiating at races, the stewards shall not be required to comply with provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act but shall be required to comply with applicable provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 2nd day of March, 1999.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1999.

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President of the Senate