

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 158

BY SENATOR CORTEZ

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Racing Commission to study aspects of the horse racing industry and make recommendations to enhance the quality of horse racing and encourage the industry to prosper in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the horse racing industry has contributed millions of dollars to the state of Louisiana and has facilitated the ownership, breeding, and racing of quality horses in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, over the past several years, there has been a nationwide decline in attendance at racetracks, to the detriment of the state and the horse racing industry in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, quality horse racing and racetracks are a long-standing part of Louisiana's culture and economy and there is a compelling interest in maintaining quality horse racing and increasing attendance at horse races and racetracks in Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana State Racing Commission to study aspects of the horse racing industry and make recommendations, including the need, if any, for proposed legislation or regulation that will enhance the quality of horse racing and encourage attendance at racetracks and horse races in order for the racing industry to prosper in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Louisiana State Racing Commission shall study aspects of the horse racing industry, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) The use of race day medications.
- (2) The number of racing days for thoroughbred horses and quarter horses.
- (3) Marketing strategies.
- (4) Laws regulating horse racing in other states, including Kentucky, New York, California, and Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as part of its study, the Louisiana Racing Commission shall seek information from other states and organizations and entities as necessary and appropriate, specifically including the following entities:

- (1) The Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association.
- (2) The Louisiana Quarter Horse Association.
- (3) The Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association.
- (4) Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots.
- (5) Delta Downs.
- (6) Evangeline Downs.
- (7) Louisiana Downs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Racing Commission shall report the results and recommendations of such study, including the need, if any, for proposed legislation or regulation to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs on or before March 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana State Racing Commission.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE