

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the resolve by striking out all of the 2nd paragraph after the title (page 1, lines 3 and 4 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

‘**Whereas**, the Commission To Study the Promotion, Expansion and Regulation of the Harness Racing Industry is established to review the racing industry in Maine; and’

Amend the resolve by striking out all of sections 1 and 2 and inserting the following:

‘**Sec. 1 Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission To Study the Promotion, Expansion and Regulation of the Harness Racing Industry, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established; and be it further

**Sec. 2 Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists of 11 members appointed as follows:

1. Two members of the Senate, one member of the party holding the highest number of seats and one member of the party holding the 2nd highest number of seats, appointed by the President of the Senate. At least one Senate member must be serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry;

2. Four members of the House of Representatives, at least one member of the party holding the highest number of seats and at least one member of the party holding the 2nd highest number of seats, all appointed by the Speaker of the House. At least one House member must be serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry;

3. The chair of the Maine harness racing promotion board;

4. Two members recommended by an association of horsemen appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources;

5. One member who is a racing director for an agricultural fair recommended by a statewide fair association and appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources; and

6. One member representing commercial harness racing tracks appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources; and be it further’

Amend the resolve by striking out all of sections 8, 9 and 10 and inserting the following:

‘**Sec. 8 Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 5, 2007, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including any suggested legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is authorized to introduce legislation related to the harness racing industry to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature; and be it further

**Sec. 9 Commission budget. Resolved:** That the commission shall seek outside funds to fully fund all costs of the commission. If sufficient outside funding has not been received by the commission by September 15, 2007 to fully fund all costs of the commission, no meetings are authorized and no expenses of any kind may be incurred or reimbursed. Contributions to support the work of the commission may not be accepted from any party having a pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the matters being studied. Any person, other than a state agency, desiring to make a financial or in-kind contribution must certify to the Legislative Council that it has no pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. The certification must be made in the manner prescribed by the Legislative Council. All contributions are subject to approval by the Legislative Council. All funds accepted must be forwarded to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council along with an accounting record that includes the amount of the funds, the date the funds were received, from whom the funds were received and the purpose of and any limitation on the use of the funds. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall administer any funds received by the commission. The executive director shall notify the chairs of the commission when sufficient funding has been received. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the Legislative Council for its approval. The commission may not incur expenses that would result in the commission's exceeding its approved budget; and be it further

**Sec. 10 Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

## LEGISLATURE

### Study Commissions - Funding 0444

Initiative: Provides an allocation of Other Special Revenue Funds in fiscal year 2007-08 in the event outside funds are received to fully fund the cost of the Commission To Study the Promotion, Expansion and Regulation of the Harness Racing Industry.

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>
Personal Services	\$1,760	\$0
All Other	\$3,000	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,760</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## SUMMARY

This amendment corrects the name of the commission and adds 2 additional members of the House of Representatives to the Commission To Study the Promotion, Expansion and Regulation of the Harness Racing Industry. It removes the chair of the State Harness Racing Commission as a member and adds a member representing commercial tracks. It makes other changes to conform to Joint Rule 353 regarding legislative study commissions.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
**(See attached)**