1	H. B. 3091
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3 4 5	(By Delegates Espinosa, Householder, Storch, Pasdon, Walters, McCuskey and Howell)
6	[Introduced March 25, 2013; referred to the
7	Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.]
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10	A BILL to amend and reenact $\$19-23-13b$ of the Code of West
11	Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to restricted races at
12	pari-mutuel thoroughbred horse race tracks; permitting up to
13	two restricted races if there are at least seven single
14	betting interests; permitting a third restricted race if there
15	are at least nine single betting interests; and eliminating a
16	provision concerning if less than seventy-five percent of the
17	restricted races fail to receive enough entries to race.
18	Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:
19	That §19-23-13b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as
20	amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:
21	ARTICLE 23. HORSE AND DOG RACING.
22	<pre>§19-23-13b. West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund;</pre>
23	distribution; restricted races; nonrestricted
24	purse supplements; preference for West Virginia
25	accredited thoroughbreds.

(a) The Racing Commission shall deposit moneys required to be 1 2 withheld by an association or licensee in subsection (b), section 3 nine of this article in a banking institution of its choice in a 4 special account to be known as "West Virginia Racing Commission 5 Special Account -- West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund": 6 Provided, That after the West Virginia Lottery Commission has 7 divided moneys between the West Virginia Thoroughbred Development 8 Fund and the West Virginia Greyhound Breeding Development Fund 9 pursuant to the provisions of sections ten and ten-b, article 10 twenty-two-a, chapter twenty-nine of this code, the Racing 11 Commission shall, beginning October 1, 2005, deposit the remaining 12 moneys required to be withheld from an association or licensee 13 designated to the Thoroughbred Development Fund under the 14 provisions of subsection (b), section nine of this article, 15 subdivision (3), subsection (e), section twelve-b of this article, 16 subsection (b), section twelve-c of this article, paragraph (B), 17 subdivision (3), subsection (b), section thirteen-c of this article 18 and sections ten and ten-b, article twenty-two-a, chapter twenty-19 nine of this code into accounts for each thoroughbred racetrack 20 licensee with a banking institution of its choice with a separate 21 account for each association or licensee. Each separate account 22 shall be a special account to be known as "West Virginia Racing 23 Commission Special Account - West Virginia Thoroughbred Development 24 Fund" and shall name the licensee for which the special account has

1 been established: Provided, however, That the Racing Commission 2 shall deposit all moneys paid into the Thoroughbred Development 3 Fund by a thoroughbred racetrack licensee that did not participate 4 in the Thoroughbred Development Fund for at least four consecutive 5 calendar years prior to December 31, 1992 from July 8, 2005 until 6 the effective date of the amendment to this section passed during 7 the fourth extraordinary session of the seventy-seventh Legislature 8 shall be paid into the purse fund of that thoroughbred racetrack 9 licensee: Provided further, That the moneys paid into the 10 Thoroughbred Development Fund by a thoroughbred racetrack licensee 11 that did not participate in the Thoroughbred Development Fund for 12 at least four consecutive calendar years prior to December 31, 13 1992, shall be transferred into that licensee's purse fund until Notice of the amount, date and place of the 14 April 1, 2006. 15 deposits shall be given by the Racing Commission, in writing, to 16 the State Treasurer. The purpose of the funds is to promote better 17 breeding and racing of thoroughbred horses in the state through 18 awards and purses for accredited breeders/raisers, sire owners and 19 thoroughbred race horse owners: And provided further, That five 20 percent of the deposits required to be withheld by an association 21 or licensee in subsection (b), section nine of this article shall 22 be placed in a special revenue account hereby continued in the 23 State Treasury called the "Administration and Promotion Account": 24 And provided further, That four and one-half percent of the

1 deposits into the Thoroughbred Development Fund shall be placed in 2 the Administration and Promotion Account, <u>except that of this</u> 3 <u>percentage, no more than \$305,000 shall be placed in the account in</u> 4 any year.

5 (b) The Racing Commission is authorized to expend the moneys 6 deposited in the administration and promotion account at times and 7 in amounts as the commission determines to be necessary for and promoting the 8 purposes of administering thoroughbred 9 development program: Provided, That during any fiscal year in which 10 the commission anticipates spending any money from the account, the 11 commission shall submit to the executive department during the 12 budget preparation period prior to the Legislature convening before 13 that fiscal year for inclusion in the executive budget document and 14 budget bill the recommended expenditures, as well as requests of 15 appropriations for the purpose of administration and promotion of 16 the program. The commission shall make an annual report to the 17 Legislature on the status of the administration and promotion 18 account, including the previous year's expenditures and projected 19 expenditures for the next year.

(c) The fund or funds and the account or accounts established in subsection (a) of this section shall operate on an annual basis. (d) Funds in the Thoroughbred Development Fund or funds in the separate accounts for each association or licensee as provided in subsection (a) of this section shall be expended for awards and

1 purses except as otherwise provided in this section. Annually, the 2 first \$800,000 shall be available for distribution for a minimum of 3 fourteen accredited stakes races at a racetrack which has 4 participated in the West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund for 5 a period of more than four consecutive calendar years prior to 6 December 31, 1992. The weights for all accredited stakes races 7 shall be weight for age. One of the stakes races shall be the West 8 Virginia Futurity and the second shall be the Frank Gall Memorial 9 Stakes. For the purpose of participating in the West Virginia 10 Futurity only, all mares, starting with the breeding season 11 beginning February 1 through July 31, 2004, and each successive 12 breeding season thereafter shall be bred back that year to an 13 accredited West Virginia stallion only which is registered with the 14 West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association. The accredited 15 stake races shall be chosen by the committee set forth in 16 subsection (f) of this section.

17 (e) Awards and purses shall be distributed as follows:

(1) The breeders/raisers of accredited thoroughbred horses 19 that earn a purse at a participating West Virginia meet shall 20 receive a bonus award calculated at the end of the year as a 21 percentage of the fund dedicated to the breeders/raisers, which 22 shall be sixty percent of the fund available for distribution in 23 any one year. The total amount available for the breeders'/raisers' 24 awards shall be distributed according to the ratio of purses earned

1 by an accredited race horse to the total amount earned in the 2 participating races by all accredited race horses for that year as 3 a percentage of the fund dedicated to the breeders/raisers. 4 However, no breeder/raiser may receive from the fund dedicated to 5 breeders'/raisers' awards an amount in excess of the earnings of 6 the accredited horse at West Virginia meets. In addition, should 7 a horse's breeder and raiser qualify for the same award on the same 8 horse, they will each be awarded one half of the proceeds. The 9 bonus referred to in this subdivision may only be paid on the first 10 \$100,000 of any purse and not on any amounts in excess of the first 11 \$100,000.

(2) The owner of an accredited West Virginia sire of an accredited thoroughbred horse that earns a purse in any race at a 14 participating West Virginia meet shall receive a bonus award 15 calculated at the end of the year as a percentage of the fund 16 dedicated to sire owners, which shall be fifteen percent of the 17 fund available for distribution in any one year. The total amount 18 available for the sire owners' awards shall be distributed 19 according to the ratio of purses earned by the progeny of 20 accredited West Virginia stallions in the participating races for 21 a particular stallion to the total purses earned by the progeny of 22 all accredited West Virginia stallions in the participating races. 23 However, no sire owner may receive from the fund dedicated to sire 24 owners an amount in excess of thirty-five percent of the accredited

1 earnings for each sire. The bonus referred to in this subdivision 2 shall only be paid on the first \$100,000 of any purse and not on 3 any amounts in excess of the first \$100,000.

4 (3) The owner of an accredited thoroughbred horse that earns 5 a purse in any participating race at a West Virginia meet shall 6 receive a restricted purse supplement award calculated at the end 7 of the year, which shall be twenty-five percent of the fund 8 available for distribution in any one year, based on the ratio of 9 the earnings in the races of a particular race horse to the total 10 amount earned by all accredited race horses in the participating 11 races during that year as a percentage of the fund dedicated to 12 purse supplements. However, the owners may not receive from the 13 fund dedicated to purse supplements an amount in excess of thirty-14 five percent of the total accredited earnings for each accredited 15 race horse. The bonus referred to in this subdivision shall only 16 be paid on the first \$100,000 of any purse and not on any amounts 17 in excess of the first \$100,000.

18 (4) In no event may purses earned at a meet held at a track 19 which did not make a contribution to the Thoroughbred Development 20 Fund out of the daily pool on the day the meet was held qualify or 21 count toward eligibility for an award under this subsection.

(5) Any balance in the breeders/raisers, sire owners and purse supplement funds after yearly distributions shall first be used to fund the races established in subsection (f) of this section. Any

1 amount not so used shall revert into the general account of the 2 Thoroughbred Development Fund for each racing association or 3 licensee for distribution in the next year.

4 Distribution shall be made on the fifteenth day of each -5 February 15 for the preceding year's achievements.

(f) (1) Each Any pari-mutuel thoroughbred horse track which has 6 7 participated in the West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund for 8 a period of more than four consecutive calendar years prior to 9 December 31, 1992 shall provide at least one restricted race per 10 racing day: *Provided*, That sufficient horses and funds are 11 available. For purposes of this subsection, there are sufficient 12 horses if there are at least seven single betting interests 13 received for the race: Provided That, up to two restricted races 14 required by this subsection and at least nine single betting 15 interests received for a third restricted race required by this 16 subsection: Provided, however, That if sufficient horses and funds 17 are available, any thoroughbred horse racetrack whose licensee 18 participated in the Thoroughbred Development Fund for at least four 19 consecutive calendar years prior to December 31, 1992, shall 20 provide two three restricted races per racing day, at least one of 21 which may be split at the discretion of the racing secretary. The 22 restricted races required by this section must be included in the 23 first nine races written in the condition book for that racing day. 24 (2) The restricted races established in this subsection shall

1 be administered by a three-member committee at each track
2 consisting of:

3 (A) The racing secretary at each track;

4 (B) A member appointed by the authorized representative of a
5 majority of the owners and trainers at the thoroughbred track; and
6 (C) A member appointed by the West Virginia Thoroughbred
7 Breeders Association.

8 (3) Restricted races shall be funded by each racing 9 association from:

10 (A) Moneys placed in the general purse fund: *Provided*, That 11 a thoroughbred horse racetrack which did not participate in the 12 West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund for a period of more 13 than four consecutive years prior to December 31, 1992, may fund 14 restricted races in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 per year.

(B) Moneys as provided in subdivision (5), subsection (e) of this section, which shall be placed in a special fund called the West Virginia Accredited Race Fund".

18 (4) The racing schedules, purse amounts and types of races are19 subject to the approval of the West Virginia Racing Commission.

(5) If less than seventy-five percent of the restricted races required by this subsection fail to receive enough entries to race, the Racing Commission shall, on a quarterly basis, dedicate funds in each fund back to the general purse fund of the racing association or licensee: *Provided*, That no moneys may be dedicated

1 back to a general purse fund if the dedication would leave less
2 than \$250,000 in the fund.

3 (g) As used in this section, "West Virginia bred-foal" means 4 a horse that was born in the State of West Virginia.

5 (h) To qualify for the West Virginia Accredited Race Fund, the 6 breeder must qualify under one of the following:

7 (1) The breeder of the West Virginia bred-foal is a West 8 Virginia resident;

9 (2) The breeder of the West Virginia bred-foal is not a West 10 Virginia resident, but keeps his or her breeding stock in West 11 Virginia year round; or

12 (3) The breeder of the West Virginia bred-foal is not a West 13 Virginia resident and does not qualify under subdivision (2) of 14 this subsection, but either the sire of the West Virginia bred-foal 15 is a West Virginia stallion, or the mare is covered only by a West 16 Virginia accredited stallion or stallions before December 31 of the 17 calendar year following the birth of that West Virginia bred-foal.

(i) From July 1, 2001, West Virginia accredited thoroughbred horses have preference for entry in all accredited races at a thoroughbred race track at which the licensee participates in the West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund.

(j) Beginning July 1, 2006, any racing association licensed by A the Racing Commission to conduct thoroughbred racing and permitting and conducting pari-mutuel wagering under the provisions of this

1 article must have a West Virginia Thoroughbred Racing Breeders

2 Program.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to permit up to two restricted races at pari-mutuel thoroughbred horse race tracks if there are at least seven single betting interests. The bill permits a third restricted race if there are at least nine single betting interests. The bill eliminates a provision concerning if less than seventy-five percent of the restricted races fail to receive enough entries to race.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.