

By: Crownover

H.B. No. 581

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the medication or drug testing of racing animals under  
3 the Texas Racing Act.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 3.07(d), Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,  
6 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

7 (d) Medication or drug testing performed on a race animal  
8 under this Act shall be conducted by the Texas Veterinary Medical  
9 Diagnostic Laboratory or by a laboratory operated by or in  
10 conjunction with or by a private or public agency selected by the  
11 commission after consultation with the [~~on a yearly basis by~~  
12 ~~competitive bidding submitted to the commission for final approval.~~  
13 ~~The commission's decision shall be based on cost and integrity.~~

14 ~~The~~] Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory [~~may aid the~~  
15 ~~commission in its selection~~]. Medication or drug testing performed  
16 on a human under this Act shall be conducted by a laboratory  
17 approved by the commission. Charges for services performed under  
18 this section shall be forwarded to the commission for approval as to  
19 the reasonableness of the charges for the services. Charges may  
20 include but are not limited to expenses incurred for travel,  
21 lodging, testing, and processing of test results. The reasonable  
22 charges associated with medication or drug testing conducted under  
23 this Act shall be paid by the association that receives the  
24 services. The commission shall adopt rules for the procedures for

1 approving and paying laboratory charges under this section. The  
2 commission shall determine whether the laboratory charges are [~~On~~  
3 ~~the approval of the charges as~~] reasonable [~~7~~] in relation to  
4 industry standards by periodically surveying the drug testing  
5 charges of comparable laboratories in the United States. The [~~for~~  
6 ~~testing charges, the~~] commission shall forward a copy of the  
7 charges to the association that receives the services for immediate  
8 payment.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003, and  
10 applies only to medication or drug testing performed on a racing  
11 animal under the Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas  
12 Civil Statutes) on or after the effective date of this Act.