

AN ACT

relating to the composition of the Texas Racing Commission.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2.02(a), Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(a) The commission consists of seven [~~six~~] members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and two ex officio members who shall have the right to vote. The ex officio members are:

(1) the chairman of the Public Safety Commission or a member of the Public Safety Commission designated by the chairman of the Public Safety Commission; and

(2) the comptroller of public accounts or the comptroller's designee.

SECTION 2. Section 2.03(a), Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(a) Appointed members hold office for staggered terms of six years with two or three members' terms expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year. A member holds office until that member's successor is appointed and qualifies.

SECTION 3. Section 2.05(a), Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(a) Five [~~Four~~] of the appointed members of the commission must be representatives of the general public and have general

1 knowledge of business or agribusiness. At least one of those  
2 appointed members may be a veterinarian, and being licensed as a  
3 veterinarian satisfies the requirement that the person have general  
4 knowledge of business or agribusiness. One additional appointed  
5 member must have special knowledge or experience related to  
6 greyhound racing and one additional appointed member must have  
7 special knowledge or experience related to horse racing. A person  
8 is not eligible for appointment as a member of the commission if the  
9 person or the person's spouse:

10 (1) is licensed by the commission, except as a  
11 commissioner;

12 (2) is employed by the commission or participates in  
13 the management of a business entity or other organization regulated  
14 by the commission or receiving funds from or through the  
15 commission;

16 (3) owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more  
17 than a 10 percent interest in a business entity or other  
18 organization regulated by the commission or receiving funds from or  
19 through the commission; or

20 (4) uses or receives a substantial amount of tangible  
21 goods, services, or funds from or through the commission, other  
22 than compensation or reimbursement authorized by law for commission  
23 membership, attendance, or expenses.

24 SECTION 4. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

25 (b) The change in law made by this Act relating to the  
26 qualifications for membership on the Texas Racing Commission does  
27 not affect the eligibility of a member of the commission serving

1 immediately before the effective date of this Act to continue to  
2 serve on the commission for the term to which the member was  
3 appointed. As soon as possible on or after September 1, 2003, the  
4 governor shall appoint an additional public member to the Texas  
5 Racing Commission for a term expiring on February 1, 2009.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 948 was passed by the House on April 10, 2003, by a non-record vote; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 948 on May 30, 2003, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 948 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 28, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor