

By: Flores

H.B. No. 2700

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to judges and stewards employed by the Texas Racing Commission.

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

SECTION 1. Section 3.07, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) ~~[The commission shall employ all of the judges and all of the stewards for the supervision of a horse race or greyhound race meeting.]~~ Each horse race or greyhound race meeting shall be supervised by three stewards for horse racing or by three judges for greyhound racing. The commission shall designate one of the stewards or judges as the presiding steward or judge for each race meeting. The commission shall employ two of the judges and two of the stewards. The association shall appoint the third judge or steward, as appropriate. The association, following the completion of the race meeting, may submit written comments to the commission regarding the job performance of the stewards and judges for the commission's review. Comments received are not binding, in any way, on the commission. For each race meeting, the commission shall employ at least one state veterinarian. The commission may, by rule, impose a fee on an association to offset the costs of compensating the stewards, judges, and state veterinarians. The amount of the fee for the compensation of stewards, judges, and

1 state veterinarians must be reasonable according to industry
2 standards for the compensation of those officials at other
3 racetracks and may not exceed the actual cost to the commission for
4 compensating the officials. All other racetrack officials shall be
5 appointed by the association, with the approval of the commission.
6 Compensation for those officials not compensated by the commission
7 shall be determined by the association.

8 (a-1) Section 6.16 of this Act does not prohibit an
9 association from employing a person described by Section 6.16(a) as
10 a judge or steward if the person was employed by the commission on
11 September 1, 2007. This subsection expires September 1, 2010.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.