By: Hinojosa S.B. No. 1013

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1	AN ACT

- 2 relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas Racing
- 3 Commission, the abolishment of the Equine Research Account Advisory
- 4 Committee, and the authority of Texas AgriLife Research; providing
- 5 an administrative penalty.
- 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 7 SECTION 1. Section 1.03, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 8 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subdivisions
- 9 (37) and (52) and adding Subdivision (80) to read as follows:
- 10 (37) "Handicapper" means a person who predicts the
- 11 winner of a horse or greyhound race.
- 12 (52) "Performance" means the consecutive running of a
- 13 specified number of greyhound races as determined by the commission
- 14 [not more than 13 greyhound races].
- 15 (80) "Handicapper tournament" means a contest
- 16 conducted by an association and offered to handicappers on a series
- 17 of live or simulcast greyhound or horse races that have been
- 18 approved by the commission at the request of the association and
- 19 that may be offered for pari-mutuel wagering at the racetrack. The
- 20 association may charge a tournament fee to each participating
- 21 handicapper.
- SECTION 2. Section 2.071, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 23 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 2.071. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. (a) A person may not be

- 1 a member of the commission and may not be a commission employee
- 2 employed in a "bona fide executive, administrative, or professional
- 3 capacity," as that phrase is used for purposes of establishing an
- 4 exemption to the overtime provisions of the federal Fair Labor
- 5 Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.), if:
- 6 (1) the person is an [An] officer, employee, or paid
- 7 consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of horse or
- 8 greyhound racing or breeding; or
- 9 (2) the person's [may not be a member of the commission
- 10 or an employee of the commission who is exempt from the state's
- 11 position classification plan or is compensated at or above the
- 12 amount prescribed by the General Appropriations Act for step 1,
- 13 salary group 17, of the position classification salary schedule.
- 14 $[\frac{b}{A}]$ person who is the spouse \underline{is} [of] an officer,
- 15 manager, or paid consultant of a Texas trade association in the
- 16 field of horse or greyhound racing or breeding [may not be a member
- 17 of the commission and may not be an employee of the commission who
- 18 is exempt from the state's position classification plan or is
- 19 compensated at or above the amount prescribed by the General
- 20 Appropriations Act for step 1, salary group 17, of the position
- 21 classification salary schedule].
- 22 (b) A person may not be a member of the commission or act as
- 23 the general counsel to the commission if the person is required to
- 24 register as a lobbyist under Chapter 305, Government Code, because
- 25 of the person's activities for compensation on behalf of a
- 26 profession related to the operation of the commission.
- 27 (c) In [For the purposes of] this section, "Texas trade

- 1 association" means [a Texas trade association is] a cooperative and
- 2 <u>voluntarily joined statewide</u> [nonprofit] association of business
- 3 or professional competitors in this state designed to assist its
- 4 members and its industry or profession in dealing with mutual
- 5 business or professional problems and in promoting their common
- 6 interest.
- 7 SECTION 3. Article 2, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 8 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Section 2.25
- 9 to read as follows:
- 10 Sec. 2.25. USE OF TECHNOLOGY. The commission shall
- 11 <u>implement a policy requiring the commission to use appropriate</u>
- 12 technological solutions to improve the commission's ability to
- 13 perform its functions. The policy must ensure that the public is
- 14 able to interact with the commission on the Internet.
- 15 SECTION 4. Article 2, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 16 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Section 2.26
- 17 to read as follows:
- 18 Sec. 2.26. NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING AND ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE
- 19 RESOLUTION PROCEDURES. (a) The commission shall develop and
- 20 implement a policy to encourage the use of:
- 21 (1) negotiated rulemaking procedures under Chapter
- 22 2008, Government Code, for the adoption of commission rules; and
- 23 (2) appropriate alternative dispute resolution
- 24 procedures under Chapter 2009, Government Code, to assist in the
- 25 resolution of internal and external disputes under the commission's
- 26 jurisdiction.
- 27 (b) The commission's procedures relating to alternative

- 1 dispute resolution shall conform, to the extent possible, to any
- 2 model guidelines issued by the State Office of Administrative
- 3 Hearings for the use of alternative dispute resolution by state
- 4 agencies.
- 5 <u>(c)</u> The commission shall designate a trained person to:
- 6 (1) coordinate the implementation of the policy
- 7 adopted under Subsection (a) of this section;
- 8 <u>(2) serve as a resource for any training needed to</u>
- 9 implement the procedures for negotiated rulemaking or alternative
- 10 dispute resolution; and
- 11 (3) collect data concerning the effectiveness of those
- 12 procedures, as implemented by the commission.
- SECTION 5. Subsections (b) and (e), Section 3.07, Texas
- 14 Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), are
- 15 amended to read as follows:
- 16 (b) The commission shall make rules specifying the
- 17 authority and the duties of each official, including the power of
- 18 stewards or judges to impose penalties for unethical practices or
- 19 violations of racing rules. A penalty imposed by the stewards or
- 20 judges may include a fine of not more than \$5,000, a suspension for
- 21 not more than one year, or both a fine and suspension. Before
- 22 imposing a penalty under this subsection, the stewards and judges
- 23 shall conduct a hearing that is consistent with constitutional due
- 24 process. A hearing conducted by a steward or judge under this
- 25 subsection is not subject to Chapter 2001, Government Code. A
- 26 decision of a steward or judge is subject to review by the executive
- 27 director, who may modify the penalty. A penalty modified by the

- 1 executive director under this section may include a fine not to
- 2 exceed \$10,000, a suspension not to exceed two years, or both a fine
- 3 and a suspension. A decision of a steward or judge that is not
- 4 reviewed or modified by the executive director is a final decision.
- 5 Any decision of a steward or judge may be appealed under Section
- 6 3.08(a) of this Act regardless of whether the decision is modified
- 7 by the executive director [If, in the opinion of the stewards or
- 8 judges, the allowable penalties are not sufficient, the stewards or
- 9 judges may refer the case to the commission for further action].
- 10 (e) To pay the charges associated with the medication or
- 11 drug testing, an association may use the money held by the
- 12 association to pay outstanding tickets and pari-mutuel vouchers.
- 13 If additional amounts are needed to pay the charges, the
- 14 association shall pay those additional amounts. [If the amount
- 15 held exceeds the amount needed to pay the charges, the association
- 16 shall pay the excess to the commission in accordance with Section
- 17 11.08 of this Act.
- 18 SECTION 6. Section 3.09, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 19 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subsection
- 20 (b) and adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:
- 21 (b) The commission shall deposit the money it collects under
- 22 this Act in the State Treasury to the credit of a special fund to be
- 23 known as the Texas Racing Commission fund. The Texas Racing
- 24 Commission fund may be appropriated only for the administration and
- 25 enforcement of this Act. Any unappropriated money remaining in
- 26 that special fund at the close of each fiscal biennium shall be
- 27 transferred to the General Revenue Fund and may be appropriated for

- 1 any legal purpose.
- 2 (c) On the first business day of each state fiscal year, the
- 3 legislature shall appropriate from the General Revenue Fund into
- 4 the Texas Racing Commission fund one-quarter of the money
- 5 appropriated to the commission for the state fiscal biennium for
- 6 the administration and enforcement of this Act. Not later than the
- 7 last day of the state fiscal year in which the general revenue funds
- 8 are appropriated, the commission shall reimburse the General
- 9 Revenue Fund from the Texas Racing Commission fund or from other
- 10 funds available to the commission for the amount deposited in the
- 11 Texas Racing Commission fund, including 2.75 percent interest per
- 12 year on the amount, with all payments first attributable to the
- 13 accrued interest.
- 14 (d) The legislature may also appropriate additional money
- 15 from the General Revenue Fund for the administration and
- 16 enforcement of this Act. Any amount of general revenue
- 17 appropriated for the administration and enforcement of this Act in
- 18 excess of the cumulative amount deposited in the Texas Racing
- 19 Commission fund shall be reimbursed from the Texas Racing
- 20 Commission fund not later than one year after the date on which the
- 21 general revenue funds are appropriated, with $\underline{2.75}$ [$\underline{12}$] percent
- 22 interest per year [until August 31, 1993, and 6-3/4 percent
- 23 <u>interest thereafter</u>] with all payments first attributable to
- 24 interest. <u>In times of fiscal emergency</u>, the legislature may make a
- 25 specific appropriation from general revenue that is not subject to
- 26 the reimbursement requirements in this section.
- 27 SECTION 7. Subsections (a) and (c), Section 5.03, Texas

- 1 Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), are
- 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3 (a) An applicant for any license or license renewal under
- 4 this Act must, except as allowed under Section 7.10 of this Act,
- 5 submit to the commission a complete set of fingerprints of the
- 6 individual natural person applying for the license or license
- 7 <u>renewal</u> or, if the applicant is not an individual natural person, a
- 8 complete set of fingerprints of each officer or director and of each
- 9 person owning an interest of at least five percent in the applicant.
- 10 The Department of Public Safety may request any person owning any
- 11 interest in an applicant for a racetrack license to submit a
- 12 complete set of fingerprints.
- 13 (c) A peace officer of this or any other state, or any
- 14 district office of the commission, shall take the fingerprints of
- 15 an applicant for a license or license renewal on forms approved and
- 16 furnished by the Department of Public Safety and shall immediately
- 17 deliver them to the commission.
- 18 SECTION 8. Article 5, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 19 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Section 5.011
- 20 to read as follows:
- Sec. 5.011. INACTIVE FEES. (a) The commission may charge
- 22 an annual fee for licensing and regulating a racetrack designated
- 23 by the commission as inactive.
- 24 (b) The amount of the annual license fee for a racetrack
- 25 designated by the commission as inactive must be at least 50 percent
- 26 greater than the amount of the annual license fee for a racetrack
- 27 holding a similar class of license designated by the commission as

- 1 active. The commission shall set the amount of the annual inactive
- 2 license fees on a sliding scale that increases the amount based on
- 3 the consecutive number of years the license has been designated by
- 4 the commission as inactive.
- 5 (c) If the commission charges an annual license fee for a
- 6 racetrack designated by the commission as inactive, the commission
- 7 may use all or a portion of the money collected under this section
- 8 to reduce the fees attributable to live racing that are paid by
- 9 racetracks designated by the commission as active.
- 10 SECTION 9. The heading to Section 6.04, Texas Racing Act
- 11 (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read
- 12 as follows:
- 13 Sec. 6.04. ISSUANCE OF LICENSE [+ BOND].
- SECTION 10. Article 6, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 15 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Section 6.0601
- 16 to read as follows:
- Sec. 6.0601. LICENSE REVIEW AND RENEWAL; FEES. (a) The
- 18 commission shall designate each racetrack license as either active
- 19 or inactive. The commission shall designate a racetrack license as
- 20 an active license if the license holder:
- 21 (1) holds live racing events at the racetrack; or
- 22 (2) makes significant efforts to engage in the
- 23 construction of a racetrack or other good faith efforts preparatory
- 24 to conducting live racing.
- 25 (b) The commission by rule shall establish a renewal and
- 26 review process for racetrack licenses issued under this article.
- 27 (c) The commission shall review each racetrack license

- 1 designated by the commission as active not less than once every 10
- 2 years, except as otherwise provided by this section.
- 3 (d) The commission shall annually review a racetrack
- 4 license designated by the commission as inactive.
- 5 (e) The commission by rule may adopt a system under which
- 6 active racetrack licenses are renewed on various dates in a year or
- 7 in various years. For the year in which the license renewal date is
- 8 changed, license fees shall be prorated on a monthly basis so that
- 9 each license holder pays only that portion of the license fee
- 10 allocable to the number of months during which the license is valid.
- 11 On renewal, the total license renewal fee is payable.
- 12 <u>(f) The commission may require a license holder who is</u>
- 13 renewing a racetrack license or who is subject to commission review
- 14 of the racetrack license to provide any information that would be
- 15 required to be provided in connection with an original license
- 16 application under this Act.
- 17 (g) In reviewing a racetrack license or in determining
- 18 whether to renew a racetrack license, the commission shall
- 19 consider:
- 20 (1) the license holder's financial stability and
- 21 ability to conduct live racing events;
- 22 (2) the license holder's ability to construct and
- 23 maintain a racetrack facility and to conduct live racing; and
- 24 (3) other necessary factors considered in the issuance
- 25 of the original license.
- 26 (h) The commission may refuse to renew an inactive racetrack
- 27 license if, after notice and a hearing, the commission determines

- 1 under Subsection (g) of this section that allowing the license
- 2 holder to hold the racetrack license is not in the best interests of
- 3 the racing industry or the public.
- 4 (i) The commission shall renew an active racetrack license
- 5 after the commission completes the review of that license. The
- 6 commission may revoke an active racetrack license under Section
- 7 6.0602 of this Act if, after notice and a hearing, the commission
- 8 finds that the license holder has violated this Act or a commission
- 9 rule.
- 10 (j) The commission shall set and collect renewal and review
- 11 fees in amounts reasonable and necessary to cover the costs of
- 12 administering and enforcing this Act.
- 13 (k) The commission shall consult with members of the racing
- 14 industry and other key stakeholders in developing the racetrack
- 15 <u>license renewal and review process under this section.</u>
- 16 (1) The commission may change the designation of a racetrack
- 17 <u>license as appropriate.</u>
- 18 SECTION 11. Article 6, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 19 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Section 6.0602
- 20 to read as follows:
- Sec. 6.0602. DISCIPLINARY ACTION. (a) The commission by
- 22 rule shall establish procedures for disciplinary action against a
- 23 <u>racetrack license holder.</u>
- 24 (b) If, after notice and hearing, the commission finds that
- 25 a racetrack license holder or a person employed by the racetrack has
- 26 violated this Act or a commission rule or if the commission finds
- 27 during a review or renewal that the racetrack is ineligible for a

- 1 license under this article, the commission may:
- 2 (1) revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew the racetrack
- 3 <u>license;</u>
- 4 (2) impose an administrative penalty as provided under
- 5 Section 15.03 of this Act; or
- 6 (3) take any other action as provided by commission
- 7 rule.
- 8 SECTION 12. Article 6, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 9 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Section 6.0605
- 10 to read as follows:
- Sec. 6.0605. OWNERSHIP TRANSFER. (a) The commission by
- 12 rule shall develop a process for expeditiously processing requests
- 13 to transfer ownership of a racetrack license to a racetrack owner
- 14 who:
- 15 (1) holds an active racetrack license under this Act
- 16 at the time a request is submitted; and
- 17 (2) is in compliance with the commission's rules and
- 18 regulations.
- 19 (b) A transfer under this section requires a background
- 20 check under Section 6.031 of this Act. If the commission has
- 21 required and approved a completed personal, financial, and business
- 22 background check of the applicant within 12 months of the
- 23 application date, the commission may approve the transfer after
- 24 requiring an update of the previously completed background check.
- 25 SECTION 13. Section 6.18, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 26 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 6.18. ANNUAL FEE FOR RACETRACK [TERM OF] LICENSE[+

- 1 RESTRICTIONS ON RACETRACKS]. (a) [A racetrack license issued
- 2 under this article is perpetual. The commission may suspend or
- 3 revoke a license as provided by this Act.
- 4 [(b)] The commission may prescribe a reasonable annual fee to
- 5 be paid by each active racetrack license holder [licensee].
- 6 (b) The commission may prescribe an annual fee for each
- 7 inactive racetrack license holder in an amount greater than the
- 8 <u>annual fee paid by an active racetrack license holder.</u>
- 9 (c) The [fee must be in an amount sufficient to provide that
- 10 the] total amount of fees imposed under this section, together with
- 11 the license fees prescribed under Section 5.01(b) of this Act, the
- 12 inactive fees described under Section 5.011 of this Act, and the
- 13 renewal and review fees prescribed under Section 6.0601(j) of this
- 14 Act, must be [is] sufficient to pay the costs of administering and
- 15 enforcing this Act.
- SECTION 14. Section 7.01, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 17 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 7.01. LICENSE REQUIRED. (a) Except as provided by
- 19 this section, a [A] person may not participate in racing with
- 20 pari-mutuel wagering other than as a spectator or as a person
- 21 placing a wager without first obtaining a license from the
- 22 commission. A person may not engage in any occupation for which
- 23 commission rules require a license under this Act without first
- 24 obtaining a license from the commission.
- 25 (b) The commission by rule shall categorize the occupations
- 26 of racetrack employees and determine the occupations that afford
- 27 the employee an opportunity to influence racing with pari-mutuel

- 1 wagering. The rules must require the following employees to be
- 2 licensed under this Act:
- 3 (1) an employee who works in an occupation determined
- 4 by the commission to afford the employee an opportunity to
- 5 influence racing with pari-mutuel wagering; or
- 6 (2) an employee who will likely have significant
- 7 <u>access to the backside of a racetrack or to restricted areas of the</u>
- 8 frontside of a <u>racetrack</u>.
- 9 (c) A racetrack licensed under this Act is responsible for
- 10 ensuring that its employees comply with this Act and commission
- 11 rules. The commission may impose disciplinary action against a
- 12 licensed racetrack for violations of this Act and commission rules
- 13 by its employees as provided by Section 6.0602 of this Act.
- 14 SECTION 15. Section 7.07, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 15 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subsection
- 16 (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:
- 17 (a) A license issued under this article is valid for a
- 18 period set by the commission not to exceed 36 months following the
- 19 date of its issuance. It is renewable on application, satisfactory
- 20 results of a criminal history information record check, and payment
- 21 of the fee in accordance with the rules of the commission.
- 22 <u>(a-1)</u> The commission shall obtain criminal history record
- 23 information on each applicant renewing a license under this
- 24 article. The commission shall ensure that criminal history record
- 25 information is obtained on each license holder at least once every
- 26 36 months.
- 27 SECTION 16. Section 11.01, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,

- 1 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by amending Subsection
- 2 (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:
- 3 (a) The commission shall adopt rules to regulate wagering on
- 4 greyhound races and horse races under the system known as
- 5 pari-mutuel wagering. Wagering may be conducted only by an
- 6 association within its enclosure. A person may not accept, in
- 7 person, by telephone, or over the Internet, a wager for a horse race
- 8 or greyhound race conducted inside or outside this state from a
- 9 person in this state unless the wager is authorized under this Act.
- 10 $\underline{(a-1)}$ The commission may commission as many investigators
- 11 as the commission determines necessary to enforce this Act and the
- 12 rules of the commission. Each investigator shall take the
- 13 constitutional oath of office and file it with the commission. Each
- 14 commissioned investigator has the powers of a peace officer.
- SECTION 17. Subsections (a) and (c), Section 11.04, Texas
- 16 Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), are
- 17 amended to read as follows:
- 18 (a) Only a person inside the enclosure where both live and
- 19 simulcast race meetings are authorized may wager on the result of a
- 20 live or simulcast race presented by the association in accordance
- 21 with commission rules. Except as provided by this section, a person
- 22 may not place, in person, by telephone, or over the Internet, a
- 23 wager for a horse race or greyhound race conducted inside or outside
- 24 this state. The commission shall adopt rules to prohibit wagering
- 25 by employees of the commission and to regulate wagering by persons
- 26 licensed under this Act.
- 27 (c) The commission shall adopt rules prohibiting an

- 1 association from accepting a wager made on credit and shall adopt
- 2 rules providing for the use of automatic banking machines within
- 3 the enclosure. The commission shall limit the use of an automatic
- 4 banking machine to [+
- 5 $\left[\frac{(1)}{(1)}\right]$ allow a person to have access to only the
- 6 person's checking account at a bank or other financial
- 7 institution[; and
- 8 $\left[\frac{(2) \text{ deliver no more than } \$200}{200}\right]$.
- 9 SECTION 18. Section 11.05, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 10 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:
- 11 Sec. 11.05. UNLAWFUL WAGERING. A person shall not wager on
- 12 the result of a greyhound race or horse race in this state except as
- 13 permitted by this Act. A person who is not an association under
- 14 this Act may not accept from a Texas resident while the resident is
- 15 in this state a wager on the result of a greyhound race or horse race
- 16 <u>conducted inside or outside this state.</u>
- 17 SECTION 19. Subsection (a), Section 18.01, Texas Racing Act
- 18 (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read
- 19 as follows:
- 20 (a) The Texas Racing Commission is subject to Chapter 325,
- 21 Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence
- 22 as provided by that chapter, and except as provided by Subsections
- 23 (b) and (c) of this section, the commission is abolished and this
- 24 Act expires September 1, 2015 [2009].
- SECTION 20. Subdivision (2), Section 88.521, Education
- 26 Code, is amended to read as follows:
- 27 (2) "Director" means the executive director of Texas

- 1 AgriLife Research, formerly known as the Texas Agricultural
- 2 Experiment Station.
- 3 SECTION 21. Subsections (b), (f), and (g), Section 88.522,
- 4 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 5 (b) The director shall administer the account through
- 6 established procedures of Texas AgriLife Research, formerly known
- 7 as the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.
- 8 (f) Not more than 10 percent of the account may be spent each
- 9 year on the cost incurred in the operation or administration of the
- 10 [advisory committee or] account.
- 11 (g) All money received by [the advisory committee or] the
- 12 account under this chapter is subject to Subchapter F, Chapter 404,
- 13 Government Code.
- 14 SECTION 22. Section 88.525, Education Code, is amended by
- 15 adding Subsections (a-1) and (b-1) and amending Subsection (b) to
- 16 read as follows:
- 17 <u>(a-1)</u> In awarding grants under this section, the director
- 18 shall comply with the conflict of interest provisions of The Texas
- 19 A&M University System.
- 20 (b) The [With the advice of the advisory committee, the]
- 21 director shall develop annually a request for proposals for equine
- 22 research grants. Each proposal received may [must] be evaluated by
- 23 a peer review committee appointed by the director and subject
- 24 matter experts as necessary to evaluate the proposal. The peer
- 25 review committee shall consider the applicant's research capacity
- 26 and the relevance and scientific merit of the proposal and make
- 27 recommendations to the director.

- 1 (b-1) The director may award a grant to an applicant who
- 2 proposes to commingle grant money awarded under this section with
- 3 other sources of funding or proposes to conduct research that
- 4 includes equine research.
- 5 SECTION 23. Subsection (a), Section 88.526, Education Code,
- 6 is amended to read as follows:
- 7 (a) The director shall prepare an annual report on equine
- 8 research funded under this subchapter. The director shall
- 9 distribute the report to the Texas Racing Commission and [the]
- 10 members of the Texas horse racing industry [advisory committee].
- 11 The director shall make copies of the report available to
- 12 interested parties.
- 13 SECTION 24. Section 88.527, Education Code, is amended to
- 14 read as follows:
- Sec. 88.527. CONFERENCE. <u>Texas AgriLife Research may</u> [The
- 16 Texas Agricultural Extension Service shall conduct an annual
- 17 conference on equine research. Money from the equine research
- 18 account shall be used to defray the costs of the conference. The
- 19 conference must be designed to bring to the attention of the Texas
- 20 horse racing industry the latest research results and technological
- 21 developments in equine research. The director shall make the
- 22 report created under Section 88.526 available at the conference.
- 23 SECTION 25. The following provisions of the Texas Racing
- 24 Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) are repealed:
- 25 (1) Section 2.072;
- 26 (2) Subsection (b), Section 6.04;
- 27 (3) Subsection (k), Section 6.06; and

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1 (4) Subsection (a), Section 7.02.
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2 SECTION 26. The following provisions of the Education Code

- 3 are repealed:
- 4 (1) Subdivision (1), Section 88.521;
- 5 (2) Section 88.523;
- 6 (3) Section 88.5231;
- 7 (4) Section 88.5232;
- 8 (5) Section 88.524;
- 9 (6) Section 88.5245; and
- 10 (7) Subsection (c), Section 88.525.
- 11 SECTION 27. (a) Not later than January 1, 2010, the Texas
- 12 Racing Commission shall determine the expiration date of each
- 13 license issued under the Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's
- 14 Texas Civil Statutes).
- 15 (b) Not later than September 1, 2010, the Texas Racing
- 16 Commission shall complete a review of each inactive racetrack
- 17 license as required by Section 6.0601, Texas Racing Act (Article
- 18 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), as added by this Act.
- 19 (c) The Texas Racing Commission may adjust license renewal
- 20 and review fees pursuant to the commission's authority to adjust
- 21 fees under Section 5.01, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's
- 22 Texas Civil Statutes), and Section 6.0601, Texas Racing Act
- 23 (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), as added by this
- 24 Act, to recover any money lost by the change in law made by this Act
- 25 to Subsection (e), Section 3.07, Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 26 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).
- 27 (d) As soon as practicable, the executive director of Texas

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- 1 AgriLife Research shall submit a report to the Texas Racing
- 2 Commission as required by Section 88.526, Education Code, as
- 3 amended by this Act.
- 4 SECTION 28. (a) In this section:
- 5 (1) "Active racetrack license" means a racetrack
- 6 license designated as active by the commission.
- 7 (2) "Commission" means the Texas Racing Commission.
- 8 (b) Notwithstanding Section 6.0601, Texas Racing Act
- 9 (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), as added by this
- 10 Act, the commission shall conduct an initial review of each active
- 11 racetrack license not later than September 1, 2011, according to a
- 12 schedule developed by the commission based on categories defined by
- 13 the level of activity of the license holder.
- 14 (c) The commission shall first review each active racetrack
- 15 license in the following order:
- 16 (1) each active racetrack license held by a person
- 17 that owns or operates a racetrack but that does not conduct live
- 18 races;
- 19 (2) each active racetrack license held by a person
- 20 that owns or operates a racetrack and conducts live races; and
- 21 (3) each active racetrack license held by a person
- 22 that does not conduct live racing but is making good faith efforts
- 23 preparatory to conducting live racing.
- SECTION 29. Notwithstanding Subsection (a), Section 18.01,
- 25 Texas Racing Act (Article 179e, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), as
- 26 amended by this Act, the Sunset Advisory Commission shall conduct a
- 27 special-purpose review of the Texas Racing Commission as part of

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- 1 the Sunset Advisory Commission's review of agencies for the 82nd
- 2 Legislature. The Sunset Advisory Commission's report to the 82nd
- 3 Legislature regarding the review of the Texas Racing Commission
- 4 must include an evaluation of the Texas Racing Commission's efforts
- 5 to implement the changes to the Texas Racing Act (Article 179e,
- 6 Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) enacted by this Act. The report may
- 7 include any recommendations the Sunset Advisory Commission
- 8 considers appropriate based on the review of the Texas Racing
- 9 Commission.
- 10 SECTION 30. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.