

SENATE BILL 453

C6

EMERGENCY BILL

6lr3042

CF 6lr3203

By: Senator Jennings

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2026

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Horse Racing – Laurel Park – Arabian Breed Racing Authorization**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a licensee at Laurel Park to conduct live racing of Arabian
4 breed horses; and generally relating to live racing of Arabian breed horses.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

6 Article – Business Regulation

7 Section 11–522

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article – Business Regulation**

13 11–522.

14 (a) In this section, “Arabian breed horse” means a horse that:

15 (1) is a purebred Arabian breed horse; and

16 (2) has a valid certificate of registry with the Arabian Jockey Club of
17 America.

18 (b) A licensee at Pimlico Race Course **OR LAUREL PARK** may conduct live racing
19 of Arabian breed horses if:

20 (1) no more than one Arabian breed race is conducted per day;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(3) an Arabian breed race is conducted in addition to, and not in place of, an existing thoroughbred race;

(4) an Arabian breed race does not reduce the number of thoroughbred races conducted by the licensee per racing day;

8 (i) not funded by the thoroughbred purse account; and

(ii) funded by the licensee or the sponsor of the Arabian horse race;

(6) the takeout provisions of §§ 11-514 and 11-515 of this subtitle are applied to the race;

(7) the licensee pays all taxes and fees associated with the Arabian breed race that would otherwise be due on a thoroughbred race; and

14 (8) the Arabian breed race is approved by the State Racing Commission.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
16 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
17 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
18 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
19 enacted.