

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 59.1-378.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Racing*
3 *Commission; steeplechase race meetings; simulcast horse racing.*

4 [S 398]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 59.1-378.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 59.1-378.1. Licensing of owners or operators of certain pari-mutuel facilities.**

9 A. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 59.1-391, the Commission may grant a license, for a duration
10 to be determined by the Commission, to the owner or operator of a steeplechase facility for the purpose
11 of conducting pari-mutuel wagering on (i) steeplechase race meetings and (ii) simulcast horse racing
12 that is limited to the transmission from Churchill Downs of the Kentucky Derby horse race at that
13 facility in conjunction with the steeplechase race meetings for a period not to exceed ~~fourteen~~ 14 days
14 in any calendar year, provided that, prior to making application for such license, (i) (a) the steeplechase
15 facility has been sanctioned by the Virginia Steeplechase Association or National Steeplechase
16 Association and (ii) (b) the owner or operator of such facility has been granted tax-exempt status under
17 § 501 (c) (3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

18 For purposes of this section, "steeplechase facility" means a turf racecourse constructed over natural
19 ground which is utilized primarily for races where horses jump over fences.

20 B. In deciding whether to grant any license pursuant to this section, the Commission shall consider
21 (i) the results of, circumstances surrounding, and issues involved in any referendum conducted under the
22 provisions of § 59.1-391 and (ii) whether the Commission had previously granted a license to such
23 facility, owner, or operator.

24 C. In no event shall the Commission issue more than ~~twelve~~ 12 licenses in a calendar year pursuant
25 to this section.

ENROLLED

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