

EQUINE INDUSTRY ON GAMING CONTROL BOARD

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House Bill 4151 (Substitute H-1)

Sponsor: Rep. Cindy Denby

Committee: Agriculture

Complete to 4-26-11

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4151 AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

The bill would require that one member of the Michigan Gaming Control Board be a representative of the equine (horse-related) industry. (The Gaming Control Board is responsible for the licensing and regulation of the Detroit casinos and of the state's horse racing tracks, among other things).

The board would continue to have five members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Not more than three board members can be members of the same political party.

Under the bill, a person could not be appointed or employed by the board if the following conditions are true:

- If during the three years immediately preceding the appointment, the person held a direct or indirect interest in, or was employed, by a person who held, or applied for a race meeting license under the Horse Racing Law of 1995 or, in another state or foreign country. However, the person could be employed by the board if the interest would not, in the opinion of the board, interfere with the discharge of employment obligations. A person could not be employed by the board if his or her interest in a race meeting or track license constitutes a controlling interest in the license.
- If the person, his or her spouse, parent, child, sibling or spouse of his or her child or sibling, is a member of the board of directors, or a person financially interested in, a person that holds or applied for a license under the Horse Racing Law of 1995.

These restrictions mirror those already in the act related to involvement in casino licensees.

The bill would also make a number of technical, non-substantive amendments to the act.

MCL 432.204

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact.

POSITIONS:

Michigan Association of Fairs & Exhibits supports the bill. (3-16-11)

Michigan Farm Bureau supports the bill. (3-9-11)

Michigan Standardbred Breeders support the bill. (3-9-11)

Michigan Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association supports the bill. (3-9-11)

Greektown Casino opposes the bill. (3-16-11)

Ilitch Holdings-Motor City Casino opposes the bill. (3-16-11)

MGM Grand Detroit opposes the bill. (3-16-11)

Legislative Analyst: E. Best
Fiscal Analyst: Ben Gielczyk

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.