

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 11, *approved January 30, 2025*
Senate, No. 3921 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning standardbred horse racing purse subsidies and
2 amending P.L.2019, c.36.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.36 (C.5:5-99.1) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. There shall be appropriated out of the General Fund of the
10 State in the current fiscal year 2019 and in each of the ten fiscal
11 years thereafter \$20,000,000 annually to the New Jersey Racing
12 Commission to be used for horse racing purse subsidies. These
13 amounts shall be allocated by the New Jersey Racing Commission
14 equally between the thoroughbred industry and the standardbred
15 industry. Of the funds allocated to the thoroughbred industry, 100
16 percent shall be allocated to Monmouth Park overnight purses. Of
17 the funds allocated to the standardbred industry, 60 percent shall be
18 allocated to Meadowlands overnight purses; 16 percent to Freehold
19 overnight purses; 12 percent to the New Jersey Sire Stakes purses; 6
20 percent to purse bonuses for New Jersey sired horses; and 6 percent
21 for breeders awards purses; except that, in the event that live racing
22 programs cease to be conducted by the permit holder at Freehold
23 Raceway, the New Jersey Horse Racing Commission shall
24 reallocate to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all funds
25 allocated to Freehold overnight purses pursuant to this section until
26 such time as a permit holder resumes live racing programs at
27 Freehold Raceway. ¹Any funds reallocated from Freehold overnight
28 purses to Meadowlands overnight purses pursuant to this section
29 shall be used for the sole purpose of conducting not less than 35
30 standardbred race dates at the Meadowlands Racetrack that
31 otherwise would have been conducted at Freehold Raceway. The
32 minimum of 35 standardbred race dates as herein provided may be
33 decreased upon agreement and written consent from the
34 Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey,
35 notwithstanding the requirements of section 30 of P.L.2001, c.199
36 (C.5:5-156).¹
37 (cf: P.L.2024, c.76, s.1)

38
39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted December 9, 2024.

S3921 [1R]

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4

5

Reallocates standardbred horse racing purse subsidies from Freehold Raceway to Meadowlands Racetrack under certain circumstances.

CHAPTER 11

AN ACT concerning standardbred horse racing purse subsidies and amending P.L.2019, c.36.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.36 (C.5:5-99.1) is amended to read as follows:

C.5:5-99.1 Appropriation for horse racing purse subsidies.

1. There shall be appropriated out of the General Fund of the State in the current fiscal year 2019 and in each of the ten fiscal years thereafter \$20,000,000 annually to the New Jersey Racing Commission to be used for horse racing purse subsidies. These amounts shall be allocated by the New Jersey Racing Commission equally between the thoroughbred industry and the standardbred industry. Of the funds allocated to the thoroughbred industry, 100 percent shall be allocated to Monmouth Park overnight purses. Of the funds allocated to the standardbred industry, 60 percent shall be allocated to Meadowlands overnight purses; 16 percent to Freehold overnight purses; 12 percent to the New Jersey Sire Stakes purses; 6 percent to purse bonuses for New Jersey sired horses; and 6 percent for breeders awards purses; except that, in the event that live racing programs cease to be conducted by the permit holder at Freehold Raceway, the New Jersey Horse Racing Commission shall reallocate to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all funds allocated to Freehold overnight purses pursuant to this section until such time as a permit holder resumes live racing programs at Freehold Raceway. Any funds reallocated from Freehold overnight purses to Meadowlands overnight purses pursuant to this section shall be used for the sole purpose of conducting not less than 35 standardbred race dates at the Meadowlands Racetrack that otherwise would have been conducted at Freehold Raceway. The minimum of 35 standardbred race dates as herein provided may be decreased upon agreement and written consent from the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey, notwithstanding the requirements of section 30 of P.L.2001, c.199 (C.5:5-156).

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 30, 2025.

SENATE, No. 3921

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 5, 2024

Sponsored by:
Senator PAUL A. SARLO
District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Reallocates standardbred horse racing purse subsidies from Freehold Raceway to Meadowlands Racetrack under certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S3921 SARLO

2

1 AN ACT concerning standardbred horse racing purse subsidies and
2 amending P.L.2019, c.36.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.36 (C.5:5-99.1) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. There shall be appropriated out of the General Fund of the
10 State in the current fiscal year 2019 and in each of the ten fiscal
11 years thereafter \$20,000,000 annually to the New Jersey Racing
12 Commission to be used for horse racing purse subsidies. These
13 amounts shall be allocated by the New Jersey Racing Commission
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15 industry. Of the funds allocated to the thoroughbred industry, 100
16 percent shall be allocated to Monmouth Park overnight purses. Of
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18 allocated to Meadowlands overnight purses; 16 percent to Freehold
19 overnight purses; 12 percent to the New Jersey Sire Stakes purses; 6
20 percent to purse bonuses for New Jersey sired horses; and 6 percent
21 for breeders awards purses; except that, in the event that live racing
22 programs cease to be conducted by the permit holder at Freehold
23 Raceway, the New Jersey Horse Racing Commission shall
24 reallocate to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all funds
25 allocated to Freehold overnight purses pursuant to this section until
26 such time as a permit holder resumes live racing programs at
27 Freehold Raceway.

28 (cf: P.L.2024, c.76, s.1)

29

30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

31

32

33

STATEMENT

34

35 This bill directs the New Jersey Racing Commission to reallocate
36 to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all overnight purse
37 subsidies previously allocated to Freehold overnight purses during
38 periods of time when there are no live racing programs being
39 conducted at Freehold Raceway. Under current law, of the funds
40 allocated to the standardbred industry, 16 percent are allocated to
41 Freehold overnight purses and 60 percent are allocated to
42 Meadowlands overnight purses.

43 This bill responds to the recent news that Freehold Raceway
44 would be closing and ceasing all live racing programs at the end of
45 2024. In the event that a horse racing permit holder begins

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

S3921 SARLO

3

1 conducting live racing programs at Freehold Raceway in the future,
2 the terms of this bill would allow for the 16 percent share of purse
3 subsidies to be allocated to the standardbred industry as Freehold
4 overnight purses.

5 This bill does not affect the purse subsidy allocations made
6 under current law to the thoroughbred industry, or to the
7 standardbred industry's Sire Stakes program, bonuses for New
8 Jersey sired horses, or for breeder awards.

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3921

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 5, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator PAUL A. SARLO

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman CLINTON CALABRESE

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Reallocates standardbred horse racing purse subsidies from Freehold Raceway to Meadowlands Racetrack under certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on December 9, 2024, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/19/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning standardbred horse racing purse subsidies and
2 amending P.L.2019, c.36.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.36 (C.5:5-99.1) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. There shall be appropriated out of the General Fund of the
10 State in the current fiscal year 2019 and in each of the ten fiscal
11 years thereafter \$20,000,000 annually to the New Jersey Racing
12 Commission to be used for horse racing purse subsidies. These
13 amounts shall be allocated by the New Jersey Racing Commission
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23 Raceway, the New Jersey Horse Racing Commission shall
24 reallocate to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all funds
25 allocated to Freehold overnight purses pursuant to this section until
26 such time as a permit holder resumes live racing programs at
27 Freehold Raceway. ¹Any funds reallocated from Freehold overnight
28 purses to Meadowlands overnight purses pursuant to this section
29 shall be used for the sole purpose of conducting not less than 35
30 standardbred race dates at the Meadowlands Racetrack that
31 otherwise would have been conducted at Freehold Raceway. The
32 minimum of 35 standardbred race dates as herein provided may be
33 decreased upon agreement and written consent from the
34 Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey,
35 notwithstanding the requirements of section 30 of P.L.2001, c.199
36 (C.5:5-156).¹

37 (cf: P.L.2024, c.76, s.1)

38

39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted December 9, 2024.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3921

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 9, 2024

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 3921.

As amended, this bill directs the New Jersey Racing Commission to reallocate to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all overnight purse subsidies previously allocated to Freehold overnight purses during periods of time when there are no live racing programs being conducted at Freehold Raceway. Under current law, of the funds allocated to the standardbred industry, 16 percent are allocated to Freehold overnight purses and 60 percent are allocated to Meadowlands overnight purses.

This bill responds to the recent news that Freehold Raceway would be closing and ceasing all live racing programs at the end of 2024. The funds reallocated to the Meadowlands are to be used solely for the purpose of conducting at least 35 standardbred race dates at the Meadowlands that otherwise would have otherwise occurred at Freehold Raceway, except that the number of race dates may be decreased upon agreement and written consent from the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey. In the event that a horse racing permit holder begins conducting live racing programs at Freehold Raceway in the future, the terms of this bill would allow for the 16 percent share of purse subsidies to be allocated to the standardbred industry as Freehold overnight purses.

This bill does not affect the purse subsidy allocations made under current law to the thoroughbred industry, or to the standardbred industry's Sire Stakes program, bonuses for New Jersey sired horses, or for breeder awards.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments provide that the funds reallocated to the Meadowlands pursuant to the bill are to be used solely for the purpose of conducting at least 35 standardbred race dates at the Meadowlands that otherwise would have otherwise occurred at Freehold Raceway, except that the number of race dates may be

decreased upon agreement and written consent from the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5090

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 12, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman CLINTON CALABRESE

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Reallocates standardbred horse racing purse subsidies from Freehold Raceway to Meadowlands Racetrack under certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



A5090 CALABRESE

2

1 AN ACT concerning standardbred horse racing purse subsidies and
2 amending P.L.2019, c.36.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.36 (C.5:5-99.1) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. There shall be appropriated out of the General Fund of the
10 State in the current fiscal year 2019 and in each of the ten fiscal
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23 Raceway, the New Jersey Horse Racing Commission shall
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25 allocated to Freehold overnight purses pursuant to this section until
26 such time as a permit holder resumes live racing programs at
27 Freehold Raceway.

28 (cf: P.L.2024, c.76, s.1)

29

30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

31

32

33

STATEMENT

34

35 This bill directs the New Jersey Racing Commission to reallocate
36 to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all overnight purse
37 subsidies previously allocated to Freehold overnight purses during
38 periods of time when there are no live racing programs being
39 conducted at Freehold Raceway. Under current law, of the funds
40 allocated to the standardbred industry, 16 percent are allocated to
41 Freehold overnight purses and 60 percent are allocated to
42 Meadowlands overnight purses.

43 This bill responds to the recent news that Freehold Raceway
44 would be closing and ceasing all live racing programs at the end of
45 2024. In the event that a horse racing permit holder begins

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

A5090 CALABRESE

3

1 conducting live racing programs at Freehold Raceway in the future,
2 the terms of this bill would allow for the 16 percent share of purse
3 subsidies to be allocated to the standardbred industry as Freehold
4 overnight purses.

5 This bill does not affect the purse subsidy allocations made
6 under current law to the thoroughbred industry, or to the
7 standardbred industry's Sire Stakes program, bonuses for New
8 Jersey sired horses, or for breeder awards.

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 5090

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 12, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman CLINTON CALABRESE

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman WILLIAM F. MOEN, JR.

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Reallocates standardbred horse racing purse subsidies from Freehold Raceway to Meadowlands Racetrack under certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on December 16, 2024, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/13/2025)

1 AN ACT concerning standardbred horse racing purse subsidies and
2 amending P.L.2019, c.36.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.36 (C.5:5-99.1) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 1. There shall be appropriated out of the General Fund of the
10 State in the current fiscal year 2019 and in each of the ten fiscal
11 years thereafter \$20,000,000 annually to the New Jersey Racing
12 Commission to be used for horse racing purse subsidies. These
13 amounts shall be allocated by the New Jersey Racing Commission
14 equally between the thoroughbred industry and the standardbred
15 industry. Of the funds allocated to the thoroughbred industry, 100
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20 percent to purse bonuses for New Jersey sired horses; and 6 percent
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22 programs cease to be conducted by the permit holder at Freehold
23 Raceway, the New Jersey Horse Racing Commission shall
24 reallocate to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all funds
25 allocated to Freehold overnight purses pursuant to this section until
26 such time as a permit holder resumes live racing programs at
27 Freehold Raceway.¹ Any funds reallocated from Freehold overnight
28 purses to Meadowlands overnight purses pursuant to this section
29 shall be used for the sole purpose of conducting not less than 35
30 standardbred race dates at the Meadowlands Racetrack that
31 otherwise would have been conducted at Freehold Raceway. The
32 minimum of 35 standardbred race dates as herein provided may be
33 decreased upon agreement and written consent from the
34 Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey,
35 notwithstanding the requirements of section 30 of P.L.2001, c.199
36 (C.5:5-156).¹

37 (cf: P.L.2024, c.76, s.1)

38

39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted December 16, 2024.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5090

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 16, 2024

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 5090.

This bill, as amended by the committee, directs the New Jersey Racing Commission to reallocate to Meadowlands overnight purses any and all overnight purse subsidies previously allocated to Freehold overnight purses during periods of time when there are no live racing programs being conducted at Freehold Raceway. Under current law, of the funds allocated to the standardbred industry, 16 percent are allocated to Freehold overnight purses and 60 percent are allocated to Meadowlands overnight purses.

This bill responds to the recent news that Freehold Raceway would be closing and ceasing all live racing programs at the end of 2024. The funds reallocated to the Meadowlands are to be used solely for the purpose of conducting at least 35 standardbred race dates at the Meadowlands that otherwise would have otherwise occurred at Freehold Raceway, except that the number of race dates may be decreased upon agreement and written consent from the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey. In the event that a horse racing permit holder begins conducting live racing programs at Freehold Raceway in the future, the terms of this bill would allow for the 16 percent share of purse subsidies to be allocated to the standardbred industry as Freehold overnight purses.

This bill does not affect the purse subsidy allocations made under current law to the thoroughbred industry, or to the standardbred industry's Sire Stakes program, bonuses for New Jersey sired horses, or for breeder awards.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments provide that the funds reallocated to the Meadowlands pursuant to the bill are to be used solely for the purpose of conducting at least 35 standardbred race dates at the Meadowlands that otherwise would have otherwise occurred at Freehold Raceway, except that the number of race dates may be decreased upon agreement and written consent from the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

01/30/2025

TRENTON – Today, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law:

S-684/A-2334 (Singer, Diegnan/Tully, Swain, Sampson) - Requires telecommunications, cable television, and Internet service providers to allow for service contracts to be paused or canceled following service recipient's admission to long-term care facility

S-720/A-4168 (Burgess, Vitale/Reynolds-Jackson, Atkins, Stanley) - Requires DCPD to consult with Division of Developmental Disabilities following finding of child abuse or neglect to create services plan for person with developmental disability under certain circumstances

S-2331/A-3517 (Ruiz, Vitale/Speight, McCoy, Haider) - "Equitable Outcomes in Child Support Collection Act"; establishes procedures regarding collection of child support on behalf of children in custody of DCPD

S-3179/A-2941 (Cryan/Schaer, Wimberly) - Concerns certain emergency operations plans required to be submitted to law enforcement agencies

S-3308/A-4513 (Scutari, Greenstein/Speight, Karabinchak, Wimberly) - Requires electric public utilities to implement certain improvements to interconnection process for certain grid supply solar facilities and energy storage facilities

S-3879/A-5123 (Timberlake/Morales, Carter, Miller) - Amends lists of projects eligible to receive loans for environmental infrastructure projects from NJ Infrastructure Bank for FY2025

S-3880/A-5124 (Lagana/Swain, Park, Freiman) - Amends list of hazard mitigation and resilience projects approved for funding by NJ Infrastructure Bank under FY2025 Community Hazard Assistance Mitigation Program

S-3881/A-5122 (Cruz-Perez, Beach/Rodriguez, Bailey, Bagolie) - Amends lists of environmental infrastructure projects approved for long-term funding by DEP under FY2025 environmental infrastructure funding program

S-3921/A-5090 (Sarlo/Calabrese) - Reallocates standardbred horse racing purse subsidies from Freehold Raceway to Meadowlands Racetrack under certain circumstances

S-3922/A-5120 (Zwicker, Turner/Peterpaul, Verrelli, Moen) - Appropriates \$18,518,738 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to NJ Historic Trust for grants for certain historic preservation projects and associated administrative expenses

S-3936/A-5119 (Singleton, Johnson/Drulis, Sampson, Murphy) - Appropriates \$60 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for recreation and conservation purposes to DEP for State capital and park development projects

SJR-76/AJR-101 (Ruiz, Turner/Lampitt, Matsikoudis, Rodriguez) - Designates second Friday in December of each

year as “PSRPs in Our Schools Day” in New Jersey to recognize contributions of paraprofessionals and school-related personnel (PSRPs)

A-4571/S-3472 (Calabrese, Lopez, Verrelli/Zwicker, Johnson) - Makes various changes to powers and duties of NJ Infrastructure Bank

A-4968/S-3839 (Calabrese, Carter/Diegnan, Mukherji) - Modifies list of transportation infrastructure projects eligible to receive loans from NJ Infrastructure Bank for FY2025

A-5121/S-3943 (Katz, Egan, Collazos-Gill/Vitale, Diegnan) - Appropriates \$49.5 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to DEP for State acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects, and Green Acres Program administrative costs