34:15-131

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECK

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LAWS OF: 1999 CHAPTER: 378

NJSA: 34:15-131 (Workers compensation – eliminates by NJ Horse Racing Board)

BILL NO: S2155 (Substituted for A2828)

SPONSOR(S): Palaia and Codey

DATE INTRODUCED: October 18, 1999

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Labor

SENATE: Economic Growth, Agriculture and Tourism

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: January 10, 2000

SENATE: January 10, 2000

DATE OF APPROVAL: January 14, 2000

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL: 2nd Reprint

(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript number

S2155

SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 2 of original bill)

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: <u>ASSEMBLY</u>: <u>Yes</u>

SENATE: Yes

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: Yes

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A2828

SPONSORS STATEMENT: (Begins on page 4 of original bill)

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: <u>ASSEMBLY</u>: <u>Yes</u>

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS:	
	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	

P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 378, approved January 14, 2000 Senate, No. 2155 (Second Reprint)

1 AN ACT concerning workers' compensation coverage provided 2 through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board 3 and amending ¹ and supplementing ¹ P.L.1995, c.329.

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

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- 8 1. Section 3 of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-131) is amended to read 9 as follows:
- 10 3. As used in this act:
- "Board" means the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation 11 Board established by section 4 of this act. 12
- "Commission" means the New Jersey Racing Commission 13 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1940, c.17 (C.5:5-22). 14
- 15 "Horse racing industry employee" means **[**a jockey, jockey apprentice, exercise rider, driver, driver-trainer, assistant trainer, 16
- stable employee, or any other person licensed by the commission, who 17 is an employee of an owner or a trainer and engaged in performing 18
- services for an owner or a trainer in connection with the exercising or 19
- racing of a horse in New Jersey.] ²[: a.]² a jockey, jockey 20
- apprentice, ²[exercise rider, assistant trainer, stable employee or any 21
- other person licensed by the commission, who is an employee of a 22
- thoroughbred owner or trainer and engaged in performing services for 23
- an owner or trainer in connection with the exercising or racing of a 24 thoroughbred horse in New Jersey; and b. a] or driver 2[, driver-25
- trainer, exercise rider or any other person licensed by the commission, 26
- who is an employee for a standardbred owner and 12 engaged in 27
- performing services for ²[a standardbred] an ² owner in connection 28
- with the ²[exercising or]² racing of a ²[standardbred]² horse in New 29
- Jersey. In addition, a trainer who otherwise would be considered an 30 employee of the owner pursuant to R.S.34:15-1 et seq. ², as well as any 31
- person assisting such trainer who is licensed or required to be licensed 32
- by the commission,² is a horse racing industry employee for the 33
- 34 purposes of this act.
- (cf: P.L.1998, c.11, s.1) 35

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- 2. (New ¹[Section] section 1) Notwithstanding any provision of 37
- P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15- ¹[131]129¹ et seq.) as amended, ²[the 38
- trainer of a standardbred horse a trainer shall carry compensation 39

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:

Senate SEC committee and the senate sections of the senate sections and the senate sections are senated as follows:

Senate SEG committee amendments adopted November 8, 1999.

² Assembly floor amendments adopted January 10, 2000.

insurance covering the trainer's employees as required by ²[the commission by regulation] law².

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- ²3. Section 6 of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-134) is amended to read as follows:
- 6 6. a. The board shall secure workers' compensation insurance 7 coverage for horse racing industry employees.
- 8 b. The board shall assess and collect sufficient funds to pay the 9 costs of the insurance or self insurance coverage required by this act 10 and by the workers' compensation laws of this State and to pay any 11 additional costs necessary to carry out its other duties. The board 12 shall ascertain the total funding necessary, establish the sums that are 13 to be paid and establish by regulation the method of assessing and 14 collecting these moneys. [Owners and trainers shall be assessed 15 separately for the cost of insurance or self insurance attributable to the 16 respective horse racing industry employees of owners and trainers.] 17 Assessments Ito pay the cost of insurance or self insurance 18 attributable to horse racing industry employees employed by owners 19 may shall include, but shall not be limited to, deductions from that 20 portion of I gross overnight purses paid to owners, so long as such deductions do not exceed 3% of [the owners' portion of] such purses, 21 22 and additional assessments may be collected from horse owners as 23 needed. [Assessments to pay the cost of insurance or self insurance 24 attributable to horse racing industry employees employed by trainers 25 may include, but shall not be limited to, deductions from that portion 26 of gross overnight purses paid to trainers, so long as such deductions 27 do not exceed 3% of the trainers' portion of such purses, and 28 additional assessments may be collected from trainers as needed. 29 Track owners shall not be assessed for such costs.
- 30 c. Assessments for workers' compensation insurance coverage 31 pursuant to this act shall be calculated and allocated separately for the 32 thoroughbred and standardbred industries, based on their respective 33 loss experience, and any assessments pursuant to subsection b. of this 34 section shall be allocated accordingly. No public funds, other than the 35 moneys collected pursuant to subsection b. of this section, shall be used for the purpose of self insurance or for paying the costs of 36 workers' compensation insurance or workers' compensation benefits 37 38 pursuant to this act.²
- 39 (cf: P.L.1998, c.11, s.2)

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- ²4. Section 7 of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-135) is amended to read as follows:
- 7. a. For the purposes of this act and R.S.34:15-36, a horse racing industry employee shall be deemed to be in the employment of the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board and in the

employment of all owners [or of all trainers, as appropriate,] who are licensed or required to be licensed by the commission at the time of any occurrence for which workers' compensation benefits are payable pursuant to R.S.34:15-1 et seq. as supplemented by this act, and not solely in the employment of a particular owner [or of a particular trainer. A horse racing industry employee shall not be deemed to be in the employment of the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for any other purpose.

b. For the purposes of this act and R.S.34:15-36, the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board and all owners [or all trainers, as appropriate,] who are licensed or required to be licensed by the commission shall be deemed the employer of a horse racing industry employee at the time of any event for which workers' compensation benefits are payable pursuant to R.S.34:15-1 et seq. as supplemented by this act. The New Jersey Racing Injury Compensation Board shall not be deemed the employer of a horse racing industry employee for any other purpose.

c. With respect to horse racing industry employees, the requirements of R.S.34:15-1 et seq. regarding the provision of workers' compensation insurance by employers are satisfied in full by compliance with the requirements imposed upon owners [and upon trainers] by this act and any rules or regulations promulgated hereunder. If the responsible owner [or trainer] fails to comply with the requirements of this act or any rules or regulations promulgated hereunder and if the board is still required to pay the award on behalf of that owner [or trainer] who has been found to have violated this act or any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder, then the board shall be entitled to collect from that owner [or trainer] any assessment which was not paid but which should have been paid by that owner [or trainer] as provided by this act.

d. The provisions of this act shall not apply to employees of an owner [or a trainer] who are not horse racing industry employees. To the extent that a horse racing industry employee is also covered by duplicate coverage procured pursuant to another policy of workers' compensation insurance, the coverage procured by the board pursuant to this act shall be considered primary.²

37 (cf: P.L.1998, c.11, s.3)

²[3.] <u>5.</u> This act shall take effect immediately.

Eliminates workers' compensation coverage provided by NJ Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for employees of trainers.

SENATE, No. 2155

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 18, 1999

Sponsored by: Senator JOSEPH A. PALAIA District 11 (Monmouth) Senator RICHARD J. CODEY District 27 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates workers' compensation coverage provided through NJ Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for employees of standardbred trainers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



AN ACT concerning workers' compensation coverage provided through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board and amending P.L.1995, c.329.

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

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- 8 1. Section 3 of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-131) is amended to read 9 as follows:
- 10 3. As used in this act:
- "Board" means the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation
 Board established by section 4 of this act.
- "Commission" means the New Jersey Racing Commission established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1940, c.17 (C.5:5-22).
- 15 "Horse racing industry employee" means **[**a jockey, jockey apprentice, exercise rider, driver, driver-trainer, assistant trainer, 16 17 stable employee, or any other person licensed by the commission, who 18 is an employee of an owner or a trainer and engaged in performing 19 services for an owner or a trainer in connection with the exercising or racing of a horse in New Jersey. 1 : a. a jockey, jockey apprentice, 20 21 exercise rider, assistant trainer, stable employee or any other person licensed by the commission, who is an employee of a thoroughbred 22 23 owner or trainer and engaged in performing services for an owner or 24 trainer in connection with the exercising or racing of a thoroughbred 25 horse in New Jersey; and b. a driver, driver-trainer, exercise rider or any other person licensed by the commission, who is an employee for 26 27
 - a standardbred owner and engaged in performing services for a standardbred owner in connection with the exercising or racing of a
- standardbred owner in connection with the exercising or racing of a
 standardbred horse in New Jersey. In addition, a trainer who
- otherwise would be considered an employee of the owner pursuant to
- 31 R.S.34:15-1 et seq. is a horse racing industry employee for the
- 32 purposes of this act.
- 33 (cf: P.L.1998, c.11, s.1)

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2. (New Section) Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-131 et seq.) as amended, the trainer of a standardbred horse shall carry compensation insurance covering the trainer's employees as required by the commission by regulation.

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40 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

S2155 PALAIA, CODEY

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1	STATEMENT
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3	This bill eliminates the provision of workers' compensation
4	coverage through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation
5	Board for employees of standardbred trainers. The bill does require
6	that standardbred trainers continue to provide workers' compensation
7	coverage independently for their employees as required by regulation
8	of the New Jersey Racing Commission.

ASSEMBLY LABOR COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 2155**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 6, 1999

The Senate Assembly Labor Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 2155. This bill eliminates the provision of workers' compensation coverage through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for employees of standardbred trainers. The bill does require that standardbred trainers continue to provide workers' compensation coverage independently for their employees as required by regulation of the New Jersey Racing Commission.

SENATE ECONOMIC GROWTH, AGRICULTURE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2155

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 8, 1999

The Senate Economic Growth, Agriculture and Tourism Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2155 with committee amendments.

This bill, as amended, eliminates the provision of workers' compensation coverage through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for employees of standardbred trainers. The bill does require that standardbred trainers continue to provide workers' compensation coverage independently for their employees as required by regulation of the New Jersey Racing Commission.

The committee amended the bill to correct a citation error in the title and in section 2 of the bill.

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] SENATE, No. 2155

with Assembly Floor Amendments (Proposed By Assemblyman ARNONE)

ADOPTED: JANUARY 10, 2000

At present, this bill eliminates workers' compensation coverage provided by the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for certain employees of standardbred trainers. These amendments change the bill to eliminate coverage provided by the board for all employees of any standardbred or thoroughbred trainer.

The amendments also clarify that trainers will carry compensation insurance for their employees as required by law, instead of as required by the New Jersey Racing Commission by regulation.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2828

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 25, 1999

Sponsored by: Assemblyman MICHAEL J. ARNONE District 12 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates workers' compensation coverage provided through NJ Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for certain backstretch employees.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning workers' compensation coverage provided 2 through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board 3 and amending P.L.1995, c.329.

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

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- 8 1. Section 3 of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-131) is amended to read 9 as follows:
- 10 3. As used in this act:
- "Board" means the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation
 Board established by section 4 of this act.
- "Commission" means the New Jersey Racing Commission established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1940, c.17 (C.5:5-22).
- "Horse racing industry employee" means a jockey, jockey apprentice, exercise rider, driver[,] and driver-trainer[, assistant trainer, stable employee, or any other person licensed by the
- 18 commission, who is an employee of an owner or a trainer and engaged
- in performing services for an owner [or a trainer] in connection with
- 20 the exercising or racing of a horse in New Jersey. In addition, a
- 21 trainer who otherwise would be considered an employee of the owner
- pursuant to R.S.34:15-1 et seq. is a horse racing industry employee
- 23 for the purposes of this act.
- 24 (cf: P.L.1998, c.11, s.1)

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- 26 2. Section 6 of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-134) is amended to read as follows:
- 28 6. a. The board shall secure workers' compensation insurance 29 coverage for horse racing industry employees.
- b. The board shall assess and collect sufficient funds to pay the costs of the insurance or self insurance coverage required by this act and by the workers' compensation laws of this State and to pay any
- additional costs necessary to carry out its other duties. The board
- 34 shall ascertain the total funding necessary, establish the sums that are
- to be paid and establish by regulation the method of assessing and collecting these moneys. [Owners and trainers shall be assessed
- 37 separately for the cost of insurance or self insurance attributable to the
- 38 respective horse racing industry employees of owners and trainers.]
- 39 Assessments to pay the cost of insurance or self insurance
- 40 attributable to horse racing industry employees employed by owners
- 41 may shall include, but shall not be limited to, deductions from that
- 42 portion of gross overnight purses paid to owners, so long as such

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

- 1 deductions do not exceed 3% of [the owners' portion of] such purses,
- 2 and additional assessments may be collected from horse owners as
- 3 needed. [Assessments to pay the cost of insurance or self insurance
- 4 attributable to horse racing industry employees employed by trainers
- 5 may include, but shall not be limited to, deductions from that portion
- 6 of gross overnight purses paid to trainers, so long as such deductions
- 7 do not exceed 3% of the trainers' portion of such purses, and
- 8 additional assessments may be collected from trainers as needed.]
- 9 Track owners shall not be assessed for such costs.
 - c. Assessments for workers' compensation insurance coverage
- pursuant to this act shall be calculated and allocated separately for the
- thoroughbred and standardbred industries, based on their respective
- loss experience, and any assessments pursuant to subsection b. of this
- section shall be allocated accordingly. No public funds, other than the
- 15 moneys collected pursuant to subsection b. of this section, shall be
- 16 used for the purpose of self insurance or for paying the costs of
- workers' compensation insurance or workers' compensation benefits
- pursuant to this act.
- 19 (cf: P.L.1998, c.11, s.2)

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- 21 3. Section 7 of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-135) is amended to read 22 as follows:
- 7. a. For the purposes of this act and R.S.34:15-36, a horse racing
- 24 industry employee shall be deemed to be in the employment of the
- 25 New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board and in the
- 26 employment of all owners [or of all trainers, as appropriate,] who are
- 27 licensed or required to be licensed by the commission at the time of
- any occurrence for which workers' compensation benefits are payable
- 29 pursuant to R.S.34:15-1 et seq. as supplemented by this act, and not
- 30 solely in the employment of a particular owner [or of a particular
- 31 trainer. A horse racing industry employee shall not be deemed to be
- 32 in the employment of the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury
- 33 Compensation Board for any other purpose.
- b. For the purposes of this act and R.S.34:15-36, the New Jersey
- 35 Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board and all owners [or all
- 36 trainers, as appropriate, I who are licensed or required to be licensed
- 37 by the commission shall be deemed the employer of a horse racing
- 38 industry employee at the time of any event for which workers'
- compensation benefits are payable pursuant to R.S.34:15-1 et seq. as supplemented by this act. The New Jersey Racing Injury
- 41 Compensation Board shall not be deemed the employer of a horse
- to compensation board shall not be decimed the employer of a not
- 42 racing industry employee for any other purpose.
- c. With respect to horse racing industry employees, the
- 44 requirements of R.S.34:15-1 et seq. regarding the provision of
- workers' compensation insurance by employers are satisfied in full by

A2828 ARNONE

1	compliance with the requirements imposed upon owners [and upon
2	trainers] by this act and any rules or regulations promulgated
3	hereunder. If the responsible owner [or trainer] fails to comply with
4	the requirements of this act or any rules or regulations promulgated
5	hereunder and if the board is still required to pay the award on behalf
6	of that owner [or trainer] who has been found to have violated this
7	act or any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder, then the board
8	shall be entitled to collect from that owner [or trainer] any assessment
9	which was not paid but which should have been paid by that owner [or
10	trainer] as provided by this act.
11	d. The provisions of this act shall not apply to employees of an
12	owner [or a trainer] who are not horse racing industry employees. To
13	the extent that a horse racing industry employee is also covered by
14	duplicate coverage procured pursuant to another policy of workers'
15	compensation insurance, the coverage procured by the board pursuant
16	to this act shall be considered primary.
17	(cf: P.L.1998, c.11, s.3)
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19	4. This act shall take effect immediately.
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22	STATEMENT
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24	This bill effectively repeals P.L.1998, c.11, which extended

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workers' compensation coverage provided through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board to certain backstretch employees, and clarified the manner of assessing costs upon owners and trainers for this increased coverage.

ASSEMBLY LABOR COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2828

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 6, 1999

The Assembly Labor Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 2828.

As amended by the committee, this bill ends the provision of workers' compensation coverage through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for employees of standardbred trainers. The bill does require that standardbred trainers continue to provide workers' compensation coverage independently for their employees as required by regulation of the New Jersey Racing Commission. The bill does not change the present requirement that the employees of thoroughbred trainers and owners and standardbred owners be provided workers' compensation coverage through the board.

The committee amendments, which make the bill identical to S-2155(1R), retain workers' compensation coverage through the board for employees of a thoroughbred trainer, but require standardbred trainers to provide workers' compensation coverage for their employees independently as required by regulation of the New Jersey Racing Commission. Without the committee amendments, A-2828 eliminates workers' compensation coverage through the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board for certain employees of thoroughbred and standardbred trainers, thus effectively repealing the provisions of P.L.1998, c.11.