

circuit; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requesting the Governor to seek the participation of representatives of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and generally relating to the creation of a Task Force to study and evaluate a regional horse racing circuit.

WHEREAS, The horse racing industry in Maryland has suffered over recent years from the national shortage of quality racehorses; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland racing industry significantly contributes to the economy of this State; and

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Virginia has passed legislation to authorize pari-mutuel wagering at on-track and off-track facilities, but has yet to construct a racing facility; and

WHEREAS, Cooperation between Maryland and Virginia could lead to a better utilization of the existing supply of quality racehorses, making the Maryland racing industry stronger while supporting the creation of a vibrant racing industry in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Benefits would accrue to economies of each state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Governor is requested to establish a Task Force to Study the Development of a Regional Horse Racing Circuit for Maryland and Virginia; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force be composed of:

(1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate, and one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) two representatives of management at Maryland racetracks;

(3) one representative of the breeders' association for the thoroughbred industry, and one representative of the breeders' association for the harness industry;

(4) one representative of the horsemen's association representing a majority of the horsemen at the thoroughbred tracks in the State, and one representative of the horsemen's association representing a majority of the horsemen at the harness tracks in the State;

(5) one representative of the Maryland Racing Commission;

(6) one representative of the Department of Economic and Employment Development; and

(7) 10 representatives of the Commonwealth of Virginia as selected by the Governor of Virginia; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force is charged with: