

## SPORTS ARENA EMPLOYEES' LOCAL NO. 137, AFL-CIO

Suite 203 □ 1012 Haddonfield Road □ Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002  
609/665-8033 □ Fax: 609/665-2821

affiliated with

Laborers' International Union of North America  
New Jersey State AFL-CIO and Pennsylvania State AFL-CIO  
Central Labor Unions of Atlantic & Cape May, Camden, Monmouth & Ocean Counties

April 7, 1993

Dear Representative:

Our racetracks in Pennsylvania are under siege from competing tracks in neighboring states that now offer full-card simulcasting.

It is crucial that our Pennsylvania tracks be granted the same right if they are to survive competition from West Virginia, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware.

We cannot allow our tracks to falter and urge you to vote for the pending bill on whole card simulcasting.

Our tracks provide job security for thousands of our citizens, many of whom are members of our union.

The racing industry also generates millions of dollars in taxes, supports thousands of small businesses and is a high-profile tourist attraction.

All of this must be preserved.

We trust you will act in the best interest of our state and support this bill. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Henry E. Desch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "H" and "D".

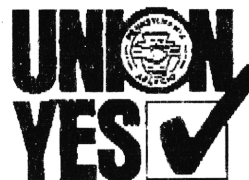
Henry E. Desch  
Business Manager and  
Secretary - Treasurer

HED/lg

# PENNSYLVANIA AFL-CIO

230 State Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101-1138  
Telephone: 717-238-9351, FAX: 717-238-8541

AMERICA WORKS BEST  
WHEN WE SAY . . . 



WILLIAM M. GEORGE  
President  
JUDITH HEH  
Executive Vice President  
JOHN VENTO  
Secretary-Treasurer

November 10, 1992

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

RE: S.B. 1557  
PLEASE SUPPORT

Dear Senator:

We are writing to urge your strong support for S.B. 1557, allowing for simulcasting of horse races at various national race tracks, as part of live action race track functions. Currently, only races from other Pennsylvania tracks can be simulcast.

Several of our neighboring states have changed their laws to allow for simulcasting of races from around the country. This is a very attractive feature to race track customers and has caused a decline in Pennsylvania race track business.

Race tracks are highly regulated and this change is absolutely essential for our Pennsylvania tracks to survive. We represent over 2,100 workers in the racing industry in Pennsylvania.

We urge your immediate action on this legislation to protect these jobs and to make this industry healthy.

Thank you.Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. GEORGE, President  
JUDITH HEH, Executive Vice President  
JOHN VENTO, Secretary-Treasurer

bg/UFCW-72

**Ladbroke**



*Racing Pennsylvania*

FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX FAX

DATE: 4/20/93

TELECOPY TO: STATE REPRESENTATIVE LEO J. TRICH, JR.

FAYS NUMBER: 717/772-2284 / 223-4377

FROM: JOHN M. SWIATEK, VICE PRESIDENT  
LADBROKE RACING PENNSYLVANIA

PLEASE CALL ME TOMORROW MORNING TO DISCUSS THE MSOA.

THE ENTIRE INDUSTRY, INCLUDING THE MSOA, SUPPORTS THE FULL-CARD SIMULCASTING BILL.

THANK YOU.

NUMBER OF PAGES IN THIS FAYS, INCLUDING THIS ONE: 3

IF THE TRANSFER IS NOT COMPLETE, PLEASE CALL SUSAN AT EXTENSION 323

smc\FAX.911

*6/17* *Tom Chaffee will be coming re back*  
*n. Ladbroke*



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
STATE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION

March 26, 1993

Honorable  
Senate of Pennsylvania  
Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Senator

Because of its benefit to the continuance of a vibrant harness horse industry in Pennsylvania, I ask for your support of Senate Bill 507, currently on your calendar.

This legislation is much needed to enable this industry to keep pace with its competition in neighboring jurisdictions by allowing it to offer complete racing programs from out-of-state tracks.

In reviewing the contents of SB 507 the Pennsylvania Harness Racing Commission has determined that its provisions would prove to be a valuable supplement to existing racing activity within the Commonwealth with stringent safeguards in place to prevent any erosion of the gains made by the industry in recent years.

Not only do we feel that all facets of this concept are of a positive nature and that the Commission has been given adequate powers to regulate such simulcasting we are of the further opinion that all segments of the industry - tracks, horsemen, breeders - will benefit from it.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Sharbaugh  
Executive Secretary





THE MEADOWS STANDARDBRED OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 253 • Meadow Lands, PA 15247 • Telephone: (412) 228-3544 • Fax: (412) 228-5044

March 26, 1993

Dear Representative:

The Economic Committee of the MSOA met with officials from Ladbroke at the bargaining table Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week. The results of negotiations led to the Economic Committee's recommending support of Senate Bill 507 to the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors met on Friday, March 26 and passed a motion to support Senate Bill 507. Based on the terms and conditions of the agreement, the Board feels that it is the best overall interests of the membership to support the legislation at this point in time. The MSOA, however, remains concerned about the long-term implications of Interstate Simulcasting to the PA Racing Industry.

This letter constitutes the official position of the Board of Directors and hereby rescinds the intent of all previous correspondence.

Appreciatively,

Anthony P. McGrew  
President

APR 20 '93 06:42PM LADBROKE MEADOWS

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LEO J. TRICH, JR., MEMBER  
978 WEST CHESTNUT STREET  
WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA 15301  
PHONE: (412) 228-9047

ROOM 2B, EAST WING  
HOUSE POST OFFICE BOX 133  
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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

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COAL CAUCUS  
GOVERNOR'S ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP  
HEALTH CARE

April 13, 1993

*Called 4/20/93  
Fax letter*

Mr. John Swiatek  
Vice-President, Operations  
Ladbroke at the Meadows  
Racetrack Road  
Meadowlands, PA 15347

Dear John:

I recently received a letter from the Meadows Standardbred Owners Association regarding their concerns with S.B. 507. While I am unaware of the Senate's schedule for consideration of S.B. 507, I believe the MSOA has raised some valid questions about the proposed impact of S.B. 507.

I have enclosed a copy of the correspondence from MSOA. At your convenience, I hope that you can respond to the issues raised in the MSOA letter so that I can be better informed about your position in regard to S.B. 507 if the bill reaches the House for consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to working with you so that we can maintain the excellence of the Meadows and harness racing in general.

Sincerely,

Leo J. Trich, Jr.  
State Representative  
47th District

LJT:ls

enclosure

APR 16 1993

The Office of  
John Swiatek



## THE MEADOWS STANDARDBRED OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 253 • Meadow Lands, PA 15347 • Telephone: (412) 228-8844 • Fax: (412) 228-5000

March 22, 1993

The Honorable Leo J. Trich  
House Post Office, Main Capitol  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Trich:

On behalf of the membership and Board of Directors of The Meadows Standardbred Owners Association (MSOA), I strongly encourage your rejection of Senate Bill 507, which would legalize the interstate simulcasting of full cards of horse races. The MSOA is a 500-plus member organization consisting of owners, trainers, and drivers that train and race harness horses at Ladbroke at The Meadows. The Bill is expected to be brought before the Senate in the very near future.

This topic has been thoroughly studied by our Economic Committee as well as our Board of Directors and is a contested matter with numerous Pennsylvania residents. It is our documented belief that the implementation of Interstate Simulcasting with the provisions and parameters permitted by the proposed legislation will prove to have a deleterious effect on the race horse industry within our Commonwealth.

Among the more significant negative expectations created by passage of the proposed Bill in its current form are the following:

1. Decline in live horse racing in Pennsylvania. The proposed Bill permits, for example, a 25% reduction in subsequent years from the number of live races conducted in 1992 at Ladbroke at The Meadows. The Bill also permits a 17% reduction in the number of live race cards;
2. Decline in salaries and fees paid to horse trainers and caretakers;
3. Decline in state and local income taxes paid by trainers and caretakers on their salaries and fees;
4. Decline in salaries paid to all personnel involved in the conduct of live horse racing;

March 25 1993

Senate Bill 507  
March 22, 1993

5. Decline in state and local income taxes paid by these personnel;
6. Decline in the sale of yearlings and race horses within the State of Pennsylvania;
7. Decline in sales tax paid on the sale of yearlings and race horses;
8. Decline in the sales of the businesses that support live horse racing in Pennsylvania, which include, veterinarian services, blacksmith services, feed, hay, and grain sales, manufacturing and sales of training and racing equipment and supplies, truck sales, horse trailer sales, restaurant sales, motel accommodations, and many others;
9. Decline in the sales tax collected by these support businesses;
10. Decline in income earned by the operators and employees of the above-described support industries, if the jobs are not all together eliminated;
11. Decline in the state and local income taxes paid by the proprietors, operators, and employees of these support businesses; and,
12. Decline in the viability in harness racing as a business caused by lack of live horse racing opportunity.

In addition to the above, we believe that a significant erosion of the dollars wagered on live Pennsylvania racing will occur. It seems very logical that the top races from other states will be simulcast into Pennsylvania's tracks and parlors, resulting in a cannibalization of the handle currently being wagered on Pennsylvania's horse racing. It does not seem prudent to replace the live racing within our state boundaries with out-of-state races.

Our legal counsel has presented a number of concerns regarding the proposed Bill. We agree with him (Mr. Charles G. Knox of the firm of Buchanan Ingersoll, P. C.), in that the language is far too vague and open ended, and the Bill has a number of important terms undefined. For example, the omission of the definition of host licensee creates the opportunity for a track to circumvent the intended approval of interstate simulcasting by the horsemen's organization. This is just one example of the loss of protection created by this proposed Bill. It seems that specificity should not be lacking in a Bill of such magnitude.

4/17  
Tom C. Knox of Buchanan Ingersoll, P.C.