

By Mr. Glynn of Boston (by request), petition of Gladys Shapiro that the State Racing Commission be authorized to grant licenses for wagering establishments for the purpose of taking wagers on the results of horse or dog races. Legal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Four.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH LEGAL WAGERING ESTABLISHMENTS
UNDER A LICENSE SYSTEM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The racing commission of the common-
2 wealth of Massachusetts may grant licenses for
3 wagering establishments for the purpose of taking
4 wagers on the results of horse or dog races to appli-
5 cants who are citizens and residents of the common-
6 wealth, or to partnerships composed solely of such
7 citizens and residents. No person, firm or partnership,
8 association, or any other combination of persons,
9 directly or indirectly, by or through any agent, em-
10 ployer or other person or any subsidiary whatsoever,
11 shall be granted more than one license in the common-
12 wealth, and any person who has any interest, directly
13 or indirectly, in one license may not be permitted to
14 participate in the benefits of any other license. Each
15 license application shall describe the premises to which
16 it applies, and not more than one location shall be
17 included in the premises to which it applies, and any
18 rights or privileges granted under such license may be
19 exercised only on the premises so licensed.

1 SECTION 2. Within ten days after the receipt of an
2 application for such license, the commission shall

3 cause a notice thereof to be published at the expense
4 of the applicant in two newspapers in the city or town
5 in which the premises whereon the license is intended
6 to be exercised are situated, and in one newspaper in
7 the county, and if there is no newspaper in the city
8 or town, then in three newspapers in the said county.
9 The notice shall set forth the name of the applicant
10 in full, his residence and a description of the premises
11 on which the license is intended to be exercised. No
12 license shall be acted upon by the commission until
13 ten days after the publication thereof. If any citizen
14 of the commonwealth makes any complaint or objec-
15 tion to the granting of such license, the commission
16 shall hold a public hearing to determine whether said
17 license shall be granted. Notice of such proposed
18 hearing shall be published in one newspaper in the
19 city or town in which the license is intended to be
20 exercised, or, if there is no newspaper in said city or
21 town, in one newspaper in the county, at least five
22 days before such hearing is held.

1 SECTION 3. Every licensee under this act shall be
2 required to post a bond in such sum or sums as may
3 be determined by the commission to insure the proper
4 performance of the rights and privileges granted
5 under this act.

1 SECTION 4. Every employee of licensees under this
2 act shall be required to obtain a license from the com-
3 mission, and no employee's license may be granted to
4 any person who has been convicted of any violations
5 of the laws of the commonwealth or of the United
6 States, nor to any person under twenty-one years of
7 age.

1 SECTION 5. Regulations for the operation of such
2 wagering establishments which may be licensed under
3 this act shall be made by the racing commission and
4 approved by the governor and council. The commis-

5 sion shall regulate the hours of opening and closing, the
6 kind and nature of equipment which may be used on
7 the premises, the manner and method by which wagers
8 may be taken, the amount of tax which may be de-
9 ducted, and any and all other regulations which the
10 commission shall deem meet and proper and necessary
11 for the protection of the public welfare. The com-
12 mission shall have the power to revoke or suspend the
13 license of any wagering establishment for the violation
14 of any of the regulations imposed by it. Any licensee
15 who is charged with any violation of any of the regu-
16 lations so imposed is entitled to notice thereof and
17 an opportunity to be heard before the commission.
18 Any person who is aggrieved by a decision of the
19 racing commission may have the right of appeal to
20 the superior court.

1 SECTION 6. The annual license fee for each license
2 for a wagering establishment under this act shall be
3 not less than five thousand dollars. The annual
4 license fee for each employee of a wagering establish-
5 ment under this act shall be not less than twenty-five
6 dollars.

