

ACTS, 1981. - Chap. 783.

Chap. 783. AN ACT REGULATING PARI-MUTUEL RACING IN THE TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The fourth paragraph of Section 3 of Chapter 128A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence:-

A race track in the town of Great Barrington shall be permitted an additional twenty days of horse racing in a calendar year, under the provisions of this paragraph; provided that preceding the granting of the twenty additional days of horse racing the voters in Great Barrington shall have approved said additional days in a referendum vote at an annual town election or at a special election called for that purpose.

SECTION 2. Applications for licenses to hold and conduct racing meetings in the town of Great Barrington for the number of dates authorized by this act may be filed with the state racing commission within thirty days following approval as provided for in Section 3 herein, and said commission shall award such racing meetings and issue licenses upon applications so filed for such meetings to be held or conducted following its acceptance. Said commission's procedures shall be the same as for original applications for racing meetings filed under the provisions of chapter one hundred and twenty-eight A.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any General or Special law to the contrary the town clerk of the town of Great Barrington shall cause to be placed on the official ballot to be used in said town at an annual town election or a special election called for the purpose, the following question:

Shall the pari-mutuel system of betting on horses for an additional 20 days of racing in conjunction with a county fair be permitted in this town. . . . Yes
. . . . No

The vote of the town on said question shall be held no later than the official town election in 1982. If a majority of the votes cast in said town in answer to said question is in the negative, said town shall be deemed to be in opposition to additional horse racing meetings at county fairs therein and no further referenda in the town on said question shall be held. If a majority of the votes cast in said town in answer to said question is in the affirmative, said town shall be deemed to have authorized additional horse racing meetings at county fairs therein at which the pari-mutuel system of betting shall be permitted. Thereafter a

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referendum vote shall be held on said question if at any time ten per cent of the registered voters of said town submit a petition with the required number of voters certified by the board of registrars of voters requesting the Board of Selectmen to place said question on the ballot at the next annual town election.

SECTION 4. Notwithstanding any General or Special law to the contrary the State Secretary shall be caused to be placed on the official ballot to be used in the cities and towns of Berkshire County at the biennial state election in the year nineteen hundred and eighty-two the following question:

Shall the pari-mutuel system of betting on licensed horse races at county fairs be permitted in this county?YesNo
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If the majority of the votes cast in Berkshire County are in the affirmative, said county shall be deemed to have authorized the continued licensing of horse races at county fairs therein at which the pari-mutuel system of betting shall be permitted. If a majority of the votes cast in Berkshire County in answer to the question are in the negative, said county shall be deemed to have not authorized the continued licensing of horse races at county fairs therein at which the pari-mutuel system of betting shall be permitted and such racing shall be discontinued in said county.

Approved January 5, 1982.

Chap. 784. AN ACT PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO CITIES AND TOWNS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OF OFF-STREET PARKING FACILITIES IN COMMERCIAL AREA REVITALIZATION DISTRICTS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 487 of the acts of 1980 is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

In addition to any authority otherwise granted by law, any city or town having a population exceeding twenty thousand according to the most recent national census or any city or town with a population of less than twenty thousand according to the last national census which in the opinion of the secretary of communities and development is a regional center providing commercial facilities for a regional market may undertake a project for the purpose of providing public off-street parking