

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY REPRESENTATIVE CONNICK

AUDITS/AUDITING: Directs the legislative auditor to perform an audit of the Louisiana State Racing Commission regarding horse racing facilities and offtrack wagering facilities located in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To direct the legislative auditor to perform an audit of the Louisiana State Racing
3 Commission and its regulatory efforts with respect to horse racing facilities and
4 offtrack wagering facilities located in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson to
5 determine whether the commission is ensuring compliance by those facilities with
6 the health, safety, and welfare standards required by law and administrative rule and
7 to determine whether the commission is enforcing compliance with respect to the
8 allocation of resources regarding horse racing and pari-mutuel wagering as compared
9 to the operation of video draw poker devices and slot machines, and to report its
10 findings to the legislature at least thirty days prior to the 2015 Regular Session of the
11 Legislature of Louisiana.

12 WHEREAS, in 1987, the Louisiana Legislature authorized offtrack wagering at pari-
13 mutuel wagering facilities; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1991, the Louisiana Legislature authorized the operation of video
15 draw poker devices at offtrack wagering facilities and at horse racing facilities; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1997, the Louisiana Legislature authorized slot machine gaming at
17 eligible live horse racing facilities; and

18 WHEREAS, although these measures have provided much needed revenue to the
19 horse racing industry, the primary purpose of offtrack wagering facilities and horse racing

1 facilities is to provide live horse racing and pari-mutuel wagering to the citizens of
2 Louisiana; and

3 WHEREAS, horse racing has been conducted in Louisiana for more than one
4 hundred forty years and has played a vital role in the history of Louisiana; and

5 WHEREAS, the racing industry has contributed millions of dollars to the state of
6 Louisiana and has facilitated the ownership, breeding, and racing of quality horses in this
7 state; and

8 WHEREAS, Act No. 276 of the 1940 Regular Session of the Legislature established
9 the Louisiana State Racing Commission; and

10 WHEREAS, Louisiana law requires the Louisiana State Racing Commission to
11 institute and maintain a regulatory program for the business of racing horses which assures
12 the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare by safeguarding the people of this
13 state against corrupt, incompetent, dishonest, and unprincipled horse racing practices
14 through the comprehensive regulation and control of the horse racing industry; and

15 WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Racing Commission has adopted rules which
16 provide that a veterinarian shall ensure that horses are stabled in individual box stalls with
17 separate feeding and watering facilities, that the stables and immediate surrounding area are
18 maintained in approved sanitary conditions at all times, that satisfactory drainage is
19 provided, and that manure and other refuse are promptly and properly removed; and

20 WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana has a compelling interest in maintaining the
21 proper racing facilities, which are essential to protecting the health and safety of the jockeys,
22 trainers, stewards, breeders, horsemen, and patrons, as well as the horses.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
24 direct the legislative auditor to conduct an audit of the Louisiana State Racing Commission
25 and its regulatory efforts with respect to horse racing facilities and offtrack wagering
26 facilities located in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson to determine whether the racing
27 commission is ensuring compliance by those facilities with the health, safety, and welfare
28 standards required by law and administrative rule.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative auditor determine if the Louisiana
30 State Racing Commission is enforcing compliance with respect to the amount of resources

1 any offtrack pari-mutuel wagering facility or horse racing facility located in Orleans and
2 Jefferson parishes is allocating to the efficient and safe conducting of horse racing versus
3 the operation of slot machines and the operation of video draw poker devices.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative auditor shall report its findings
5 to the legislature at least thirty days prior to the 2015 Regular Session of the Legislature of
6 Louisiana.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Connick

HCR No. 119

Directs the legislative auditor to conduct an audit of the Louisiana State Racing Commission and its regulatory efforts with respect to horse racing facilities and offtrack wagering facilities located in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson to determine whether the commission is ensuring compliance by those facilities with the health, safety, and welfare standards required by law and administrative rule.

Further directs the legislative auditor to conduct an audit of the Louisiana State Racing Commission to determine whether the commission is enforcing compliance with respect to the amount of resources any offtrack pari-mutuel wagering facility or horse racing facility located in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson is allocating to the efficient and safe conducting of horse racing versus the operation of slot machines and the operation of video draw poker devices.

Requires the legislative auditor to report its findings to the legislature at least 30 days prior to the 2015 R.S.