

State of Arkansas

76th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1987

SENATE BILL 565

By: Senator Ingram AS ENGROSSED 3-6-87

"AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTION (a) OF SECTION 1 OF ACT 924 OF 1985 [ARK. STATS. 84-2848(a)], TO AMEND SUBSECTION (a) OF SECTION 2 OF ACT 924 OF 1985 [ARK. STATS. 84-2849(a)], TO AMEND SECTION 4 OF ACT 924 OF 1985 [ARK. STATS. 84-2851], AND TO AMEND SECTION SECTION 1 OF ACT 879 OF 1973 [ARK. STATS. 84-2834.1], TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL DAYS OF DOG RACING IN THIS STATE AND FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS DERIVED FROM DOG RACING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. That subsection (a) of Section 1 of Act 924 of 1985, the same being subsection (a) of Section 84-2848 of the Arkansas Statutes, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) The State Racing Commission is authorized to allow each dog racing franchise holder to conduct, during any calendar year, not more than two (2) racing meets of seventy-five (75) days each, on such days as the commission may determine, Sundays excepted."

SECTION 2. That subsection (a) of Section 2 of Act 924 of 1985, the same being subsection (a) of Section 84-2849 of the Arkansas Statutes, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) The State Racing Commission is authorized to allow each dog racing franchise holder to conduct three (3) additional days of racing at any dog racing meet. The franchise holder shall agree that the net proceeds derived from the additional days shall be credited as follows:

(1) One-third (1/3) to be deposited with the city treasurer or collector of the city in which the dog racing track is located for credit to the city general fund to be used for charitable

purposes only, as determined by the mayor and governing board; and

(2) Two-thirds (2/3) to be deposited with the State Treasurer as special revenue to be used for the sole benefit of community programs of the Department of Human Services -- Mental Retardation -- Developmental Disabilities Services Division."

SECTION 3. Section 4 of Act 924 of 1985, the same being Section 84-2851 of the Arkansas Statutes, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 4. (a) The State Racing Commission is authorized to allow each dog racing franchise holder to conduct fifteen (15) additional days of racing during each twelve (12) month period. The additional days of racing may be divided between each of the two (2) racing meets allowed by Section 1 or all the additional days of racing may be added to a single racing meet as determined by the Racing Commission. In the event the additional days allowed by the commission fall upon a Saturday or Saturdays, then the franchise holder may, at its option, conduct daylight racing as authorized for a regular racing meet.

(b) All revenue derived from the pari-mutuel tax at the fifteen (15) additional days of racing authorized by subsection (a) shall be deposited with the State Treasurer as special revenue for credit to the Indigent Patients Hospitalization Fund, to be used:

(1) To defray the cost of hospitalization and medical services of indigent Arkansas patients under contract with the City Hospital of the City of Memphis, Tennessee;

(2) To provide not more than \$20,000 per year to a private nonprofit hospital for crippled children located in Memphis, Tennessee, for providing hospitalization and medical services to indigent Arkansas children;

(3) To provide not more than \$200,000 in any fiscal year, for the support of the Crittenden County Emergency Medical Services Program benefitting medical indigents in Eastern Arkansas; and

(4) To provide not more than \$100,000 in any fiscal year, for the support of the Emergency Medical Services Programs of Mississippi County, Poinsett County, Cross County, St. Francis County, and Lee County.

(c) In the event the General Assembly shall appropriate moneys payable from the General Services Fund to make payments to the City Hospital of the City of Memphis, Tennessee, for hospitalization and medical services provided indigent citizens of this State, the State Treasurer shall, upon certification of the amount paid from the State General Services Fund by the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, transfer that amount from the Indigent Patients Hospitalization Fund to the State General Services Fund."

SECTION 4. That Section 1 of Act 879 of 1973, the same being Section 84-2834.1 of the Arkansas Statutes, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. Hereafter, the one-third (1/3rd) of the amount of unredeemed winning pari-mutuel tickets at dog racing tracks in this State not presented to the franchise holder for redemption on or before the one hundred and eightieth (180th) day next following the last racing day of each racing meet which are received by the city in which such dog racing track is located, as provided in subsection (E) of Section 19 of Act 191 of 1957, as amended, shall be, upon receipt thereof by the city, used for charitable purposes only benefiting young females and young males of the city, as determined by the mayor and the governing body of said city. It is the intent hereof that said funds be made available to, and used by, the Girls' Club and the Boys' Club or similar non-profit charitable organizations in said city providing recreational youth services benefiting young females and young males of said city."

SECTION 5. In addition to the pari-mutuel or certificate system of wagering as authorized by the "Arkansas Greyhound Racing Law", as amended, and notwithstanding any of the provisions contained therein, the Arkansas Racing Commission is authorized and directed to establish and adopt rules and regulations permitting the conduct of pari-mutuel or certificate system of wagering upon racing, either horse or greyhound, being conducted at any other racing facility and simultaneously televised to the premises of the franchise holder.

SECTION 6. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that additional general revenue funds will be necessary to enable the public schools of this State to meet the minimum standards required under the Quality Education Act; that the Department of Correction will be unable to

open beds required to house inmates committed to the Department, and that the Department of Human Services will find it necessary to curtail essential medical, hospital, and nursing home services for indigents of this State, unless additional general revenue funds are provided; and that the revenues to be produced under the provisions of this Act will assist in relieving such problems. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act, being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and welfare, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

/s/ Ingram

