

SENATE, No. 1617

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 7, 2004

Sponsored by:

Senator ELLEN KARCHER

District 12 (Mercer and Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Extends workers' compensation coverage under NJ Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board to thoroughbred exercise riders in certain circumstances.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S1617 KARCHER

2

1 AN ACT concerning workers' compensation coverage under the New
2 Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board and amending
3 P.L.1995, c.329.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7

8 1. Section 3 of P.L.1995, c.329 (C.34:15-131) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 3. As used in this act:

11 "Board" means the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation
12 Board established by section 4 of this act.

13 "Commission" means the New Jersey Racing Commission
14 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1940, c.17 (C.5:5-22).

15 "Horse racing industry employee" means a jockey, jockey
16 apprentice, or driver engaged in performing services for an owner in
17 connection with the racing of a horse in New Jersey. [In addition,]
18 "Horse racing industry employee" also means an exercise rider of a
19 thoroughbred horse for the period of time during which he or she is
20 employed as an exercise rider of a thoroughbred horse at a horse
21 racetrack in this State and who is licensed by the commission, and a
22 trainer who otherwise would be considered an employee of the owner
23 pursuant to R.S.34:15-1 et seq., as well as any person assisting such
24 trainer who is [licensed or] required to be licensed by the commission
25 [, is a horse racing industry employee for the purposes of this act].
26 (cf: P.L.1999, c.378, s.1)

27

28 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

29

30

31

STATEMENT

32

33 This bill extends workers' compensation coverage under the New
34 Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board to thoroughbred
35 horse exercise riders while those riders are working at horse racetracks
36 in this State and who are licensed by the New Jersey Racing
37 Commission.

38 Under current law, only jockeys, jockey apprentices and drivers
39 (and trainers and their employees in rare circumstances) are covered
40 under the New Jersey Horse Racing Injury Compensation Board. The
41 coverage under the board is paid for through a 3% assessment on prize
42 money paid to horse owners, and an additional assessment on horse
43 owners if necessary. There is a surplus in the thoroughbred half of the

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

S1617 KARCHER

3

- 1 fund sufficient to provide coverage to thoroughbred exercise riders,
- 2 and after jockeys and jockey apprentices, exercise riders have the next
- 3 most hazardous duties.