

The below Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board at the April 29, 2022 meeting of the Agriculture and NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund:

ANTI-SLAUGHTER LEGISLATION

On December 1, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law a bill prohibiting the slaughter of racehorses and racehorse breeding stock. L. 2021, ch. 645. Additionally, the legislation provides that fines collected in connection with such violations involving standardbred horses shall be remitted to the Agriculture & New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund (the "Fund"). The Fund shall use these funds for the care of retired racehorses.

N.Y. Racing, Pari-Mutuel Wagering and Breeding Law ("Racing Law") § 332 was amended to direct the Fund to establish a dedicated account to allocate funds for the care of retired racehorses. The N.Y.S. Gaming Commission shall establish an advisory board to consult the Fund when making such allocations with representatives of the thoroughbred and standardbred owners and breeders, and animal protection organizations with expertise in the care of retired and rescued racehorses.

Pursuant to Section 9 of Chapter 645 of the Laws of 2021, the Fund shall expend appropriate resources to ensure that the public is made aware of the prohibitions, penalties, and contribution opportunities established by this legislation.

Furthermore, Racing Law was amended to require all racehorses to be microchipped. When considering a horse's eligibility to be admitted to New York-bred harness horse events pursuant to Racing Law § 334, all foals, mares, and stallions must now be microchipped.

Accordingly, the Fund shall take the following measures to ensure compliance with Chapter 645 of the Laws of 2021:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Agriculture & New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund (the "Fund") shall establish a dedicated account, pursuant to N.Y. Racing, Pari-Mutuel Wagering and Breeding Law ("Racing Law") § 332(1)(j), to be funded by the collection of fines assessed and contributions made in connection with Chapter 645 of the Laws of 2021, and allocate such funds for the care of retired racehorses.

RESOLVED, that the Fund shall continue to work with the Department of Agriculture and Markets, the Gaming Commission, and the Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund to develop a program to disseminate information about the provisions of this bill, and ensure compliance with the Fund's obligations under Section 9 of Chapter 645 of the Laws of 2021.

RESOLVED, that the Fund shall ensure that when considering a horse's eligibility to be admitted to New York-bred harness horse events pursuant to Racing Law § 334, all foals shall be microchipped. Additionally, all mares and stallions must be microchipped when considering mares bred on or after January 1, 2022.