

**2021 House Appropriations Committee
SB 2023**

1. The North Dakota Racing Commission (NDRC) supports SB 2023 budget bill and the Racing Commission Funding Legislative Management Study proposal.
2. Over the past 4 biennia the NDRC has been revenue positive to the General Fund including this biennium where the commission has returned \$451,964.93 as of March 2, 2021 compared to the \$399,000 appropriated.
3. Chapter 53-06.2. The agency's major responsibilities include:
 - a. Provide for racing under the certificate system.
 - b. Administration of the Breeders (**520** registered breeders/owners), Purse, Promotion and Operating Funds.
 - c. Regulatory and Licensing functions of **28** Company's including Service Providers/Account Deposit Wagering (ADW's), Totalizator, Charity/Site Operators, Live Race Meets and **460** (2020 #'s) Individual occupational licenses. Over **\$2 million** in total revenue collected in each of the past 3 biennia and on-track to collect over **\$2.5 million** in the current biennium.
 - d. Adopt and enforce regulatory rules for all parimutuel licensees and events.
 - e. Maintain current and recruit new licensees to enhance revenues from our ADW's to support the racehorse industry in N.D. NDSU economic impact study showed over **\$24 million** per year provided by the industry in 2016.
4. Purpose of programs:
 - a. Breeders Fund – established to financially reward breeders or owners of North Dakota-bred horses, currently 520 enrolled.

- b. Purse Fund – established to supplement and improve purses at racetracks within the state.
 - c. Promotion Fund – established to assist in improving and upgrading racetracks in the state, promoting horse racing in the state, and developing new racetracks in the state as necessary and approved by the commission.
- 5. Financial Audit Findings for 2015 - 2020.
 - a. None
- 6. One-time funding Requests.
 - a. Internships - \$10,000. Justification – to promote interest in horse racing to college students for future job employment within the racing industry. This is arrived from 3 interns per year at \$15.00 per hour along with per diem, lodging and mileage for travel to and from assignments at the live race meets in Fargo and Belcourt.
- 7. Our agency operates on a very limited budget and strives to maintain balance and fiscal responsibility at every level. Any reductions to our budget impact our ability to regulate, license, market, maintain, and recruit new and sustain existing ADW licensees, tracks, breeding operations and off-track betting sites.
- 8. We support the amendment to a study and proposing a bill to separate the N.D. Racing Commission from General Fund Appropriations in the 2023 Legislative Session as recommended by the Senate.

Organizational Chart

