



New York Farm Bureau

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Assembly Bill 6457 (Assemblymember Woerner)

AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 473 OF THE LAWS OF 2010 AMENDING THE RACING, PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING AND BREEDING LAW RELATING TO THE NEW YORK STATE THOROUGHBRED BREEDING AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

Date: 3/24/25

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural advocacy organization, would like to express its support for this legislation. If enacted into law, this bill would provide a one-year extension of the law that provides flexibility to the Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund in an effort to help offset major decreases in the amount of money the Fund collects.

The terms of the current law that would be extended allow the Fund Board, at its discretion and by a two-thirds vote, to adjust the statutory caps for each segment of expenditures. This would allow the Fund to maintain the breeder's awards at 65% of the revenue, increase by 1% the amount of money used for promoting the breeding and raising of thoroughbred horses to 6%; and increase the administrative allotments from 4% up to 5%. In addition, this extension would continue to require by law quarterly payments to the Fund.

The Fund Board of Directors is limited to their discretion on statutory incentive awards payments. As Fund revenues decline from year to year, the ability to pay awards and manage its resources is proving difficult. This legislation is necessary to permit the Fund Board of Directors to vote to continue to distribute revenues as deemed necessary to all expenditure types.

For these reasons, New York Farm Bureau supports this legislation.