STATE OF NEW YORK

10240--A

IN ASSEMBLY

February 12, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. WOERNER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Racing and Wagering -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, in relation to additional qualifications for the board members of regional off-track betting corporations; and to amend section 2 of part JJ of chapter 56 of the laws of 2023 amending the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, relating to the membership of the board of directors of the western regional off-track betting corporation, in relation to the effectiveness thereof

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 502 of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, as amended by chapter 710 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:

1. **a.** A regional off-track betting corporation is hereby established for each region, except the New York city region for which the New York city off-track betting corporation established pursuant to and subject to article six of this chapter shall constitute the regional corporation and such article six shall govern such New York city off-track betting corporation. Each regional corporation shall be a body corporate and politic constituting a public benefit corporation. Each corporation shall be administered by a board of directors consisting of two members from each participating county containing a city of over one hundred fifty thousand in population, according to the last federal census, and one member from each other participating county. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the members shall be appointed by the county governing body, and may, at the discretion of such governing body of counties which have a population of less than two hundred thousand, include sitting members of such governing body. A member of a governing body who is appointed a director after July first, nineteen hundred ninety shall not be compensated by the regional corporation; provided, however, that the mayor of a city of over one hundred fifty thousand that has elected to participate in the management of a corpo-

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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ration pursuant to subdivision two of this section shall, with the approval of the city's legislative body, appoint one of the members to which the county containing such city is entitled. In the case of the corporation established for the Suffolk region and Nassau region, the board of directors of each corporation shall consist of three members appointed by the governing body of each county, not more than two of whom shall be members of the same political party. Each director shall serve at the pleasure of the governing body or mayor appointing [~~him~~] **such director**, as the case may be. A [~~chairman~~] **chair** shall be elected by the members to serve a term of one year.

b. No person who has served as a member, officer or employee of the corporation shall within a period of ten years after such person's termination of such service or employment, regardless of the reason for termination, (i) be appointed or qualified as a member of the corporation; or (ii) appear, practice before, or communicate with the corporation, directly or indirectly, to promote or oppose the passage of resolutions by the board of directors.

c. No person who is appointed to be a member of the board of directors may attend or participate in any board meetings, including executive sessions, until that person's application for a license has been approved by the commission.

§ 2. Subdivisions 6 and 7 of section 502-a of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law are renumbered subdivisions 7 and 8 and a new subdivision 6 is added to read as follows:

6. a. No person who has served as a member, officer or employee of the corporation shall within a period of ten years after such person's termination of such service or employment, regardless of the reason for termination, (i) be appointed or qualified as a member of the corporation; or (ii) appear, practice before, or communicate with the corporation, directly or indirectly, to promote or oppose the passage of resolutions by the board of directors.

b. No person who is appointed to be a member of the board of directors may attend or participate in any board meetings, including executive sessions, until that person's application for a license has been approved by the commission.

§ 3. Section 2 of part JJ of chapter 56 of the laws of 2023, amending the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, relating to the membership of the board of directors of the western regional off-track betting corporation, is amended to read as follows:

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that effective immediately, cities and counties may take any action necessary to begin the selection and appointment process for new board member terms pursuant to this act; and provided further, that upon selection of new board members, cities and counties shall notify the corporation of their respective appointments via certified mail; and provided further, that this act shall expire and be deemed repealed [~~four~~] **fourteen** years after such effective date.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that the amendments to section 502-a of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law made by section two of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.