February 27, 2013

Instant Racing Now Before Kentucky Supreme Court

"Keeneland Racetrack", "The Family Foundation of Kentucky", "instant racing"

By: Ted Walter, Staff Member

In October 2011, KJENRAL staff member Taryn Deveau first blogged about Kentucky Downs being the first racetrack in Kentucky to offer instant racing.[1] That post also included the Franklin Circuit Court's ruling that "instant racing is within the Commission's regulatory authority so long as it involves pari-mutuel wagering on horse races."[2] Furthermore, that same post made it clear that the opponents of instant racing, The Family Foundation of Kentucky, were going to appeal.[3] Then, in September 2012, KJENRAL staff member Matt Hassen blogged that the Kentucky Court of Appeals had remanded the case to the Franklin Circuit Court in order to allow discovery for the...
Instant Racing is not only a Kentucky issue. Recently the horse racing and breeding industry has been making a push for instant racing in Oregon.[13] In April 2012, the Nebraska Governor vetoed a bill that would have allowed instant racing at Nebraska racetracks.[14] In December 2012, the Michigan legislature passed a bill allowing instant racing and sent the bill to the Michigan Governor for his signature.[15] Arkansas first allowed instant racing in 2000 and makes “in excess of $100 per machine per day.”[16]

With state budgets and pensions facing deficits and with little money to fix them, some are viewing instant racing as a large source of taxable income. “Expanding instant racing to more Kentucky horse racetracks should provide additional tax money to help fund the state’s ailing pension system,” according to House Speaker Greg Stumbo in a recent *Lexington Herald-Leader* article.[17] In that same article, it was report that “of the $247 million wagered on instant racing in Kentucky, $226.7 million was returned to the public.” Should the courts come down against instant racing in Kentucky, it seems hard to believe the legislature will still say no.

---


[2] Id.

[3] Id.


[5] Id.


[7] Id.


[10] Id.


[12] Id.


[14] Id.

[15] Id.

[16] Id.

[17] Id.
instant-racing-bill-goes-to-governor.


Older Post: UPDATE: D.C. Circuit Continues to Adjudicate E15 Case, Hurting Domestic Industries and Consumers (full-blog/2013/02/update-de-circuit-continues-to.html)

SEARCHABLE ARCHIVE (/PUBLICATION-ARCHIVE-1)

631 SOUTH LIMESTONE, LEXINGTON, KY
40508 (859) 257-4747 BLOG.KJEANRL@GMAIL.COM (MAILTO:BLOG.KJEANRL@GMAIL.COM)