

Submitter: Connie Erickson  
On Behalf Of: Oregon Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Assoc  
Committee: House Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3023

Chair Sousa and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in favor of HB 3023.

I'm Connie Erickson, president of the Oregon Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association. My husband Lee and I are owners and breeders of Thoroughbred horses that we currently race in Oregon, Washington, Arizona and British Columbia. We stand a Thoroughbred stallion at our ranch in Sublimity and bred 14 mares for clients in Oregon and Washington last year plus 5 of our own. We anticipate breeding the same or hopefully even more mares this season.

The Oregon Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association supports HB 3023 which allocates 100% of HUB funds to the Oregon Racing Commission (ORC).

The HUB is located in Oregon. Advanced Deposit Wagering companies, or ADWs, accept wagers on horseracing electronically. Imagine a wagon wheel with spokes, this is the HUB. The wager information passes through the HUB. The state of Oregon taxes the total amount of money that goes through the HUB.

When the HUB came into existence the current 75/25 split seemed acceptable due to a more robust horse racing environment. In Oregon the funds available to the ORC has declined significantly since the advent of the Lottery. This bill provides important revenue specifically earmarked for the health and safety of horses and jockeys and maintenance of our racetracks.

Chairman Sousa and members of the Committee, this concludes my testimony. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.