

**Agriculture and Environment Committee**

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**From:** Eureka Stud [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 January 2016 8:26 PM  
**To:** Agriculture and Environment Committee  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Racing Integrity Bill Submission

**To Who It May Concern**

We are an active and long standing participant in the QLD Thoroughbred Racing industry, As a major commercial breeding stud we rely on industry investors to ensure the sustainability of our business operations. Any erosion of confidence potential investors in our industry might experience directly effects this sustainability both of our stud and the industry itself.

We currently have a substantial interest in four stallions standing at stud. Our primary business focus is on the producing, rearing and selling of quality thoroughbred horses at the world regarded Magic Millions Sales.

Our input into the QLD economy through our business activities is considerable. We employ 10 fulltime staff and have a strong emphasis on supporting our local businesses, using them when and wherever possible to meet our stud operation needs.

Currently QLD Racing management remains ineffective with an acting CEO at the helm and no supporting board. *The Racing Act 2002* states clearly that a dissolved board must be replaced within 3 months and as at the date of making this submission this has not been undertaken. Without sound and effective leadership and sufficient industry representation on the board the performance of QLD Racing cannot be assured and doubts will remain on its ability to strongly drive the industry into the future.

Our presence at events such as horse sales and race meetings has given us clear insight into what the “potential investor” is thinking. It is clear we are now in the grips of having a substantial amount of negativity in the QLD racing industry as a whole and investors are shying away.

While other states remain solid and appealing in that they are increasing prizemoney, QLD Racing is actually *reducing* prizemoney on offer which for a potential investor makes QLD a far less attractive place to put his money.

This can only lead to a racing industry downturn resulting in job losses both in the industry itself and in those that rely upon it.

**Racing Integrity Bill**

1. The new Racing Integrity Commission and its associated cost is to be borne by the 3 codes: Thoroughbreds, Harness and Greyhounds. Why ? The thoroughbred and harness codes are already well-regulated and the integrity facets of them are well managed and sound. Why not focus efforts and resources on the areas that need improving and not hobble in the process the successful performance of the other codes ?

2. The commission is a government initiative, one that was reactive to the greyhound live baiting scandal, and although intentions are perhaps sound, the reality is the high cost associated with this commission and QLD Racing's attempts to cover these costs will cripple our industry. Although the greyhound scandal affected other states too, QLD is the only state that has reacted in this way and in doing so has exposed the industry to a level of downturn that will leave it unsustainable

In conclusion, we all want the industry to survive and thrive into the future for the benefit of all associated with it.

**Scott McAlpine**

Director



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