

**RESOLUTION 2026-46**

**AUTHORIZATION TO URGE THE LEGISLATURE TO DEFEAT S-5028 / A-6301 WHICH WOULD REDUCE THE MINIMUM REQUIRED ANNUAL THOROUGHBRED HORSE RACING DATES AT MONMOUTH PARK FROM 50 TO 25 DAYS**

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill No. S-5028 and Assembly Bill No. A-6301 propose amendments to New Jersey law that would reduce the minimum number of annually required thoroughbred horse racing dates from fifty (50) to twenty-five (25) under certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, thoroughbred horse racing has long been an important economic, cultural, and historical component of the State of New Jersey and the Monmouth County region, including the presence of Monmouth Park Racetrack; and

**WHEREAS**, the horse racing industry supports thousands of jobs statewide and contributes significantly to local economies through tourism, hospitality, agriculture, and related businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of Colts Neck Township is concerned that the proposed legislation may result in unintended economic harm to residents and businesses in Colts Neck and within the surrounding region; and

**WHEREAS**, the bills fail to adequately consider the impact that reduced racing activity may have on the ongoing care, training, stabling, and welfare of thoroughbred horses and the facilities required to properly maintain them; and

**WHEREAS**, the Committee of Colts Neck Township believes that Senate Bill No. S- 5028 and Assembly Bill No. A-6301 will have negative results and cause tremendous harm to equine associated services, professions, veterinarians and workers; and

**WHEREAS**, Colts Neck Township further believes there will be a loss of farms and equine facilities in the State of New Jersey which will negatively impact the environment, open space and quality of life by accelerating overdevelopment of the farms, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of Colts Neck Township urges the New Jersey Legislature to reject S-5028 / A-6301 and instead for the State of New Jersey to work collaboratively with municipalities, the Thoroughbred Breeders Association of New Jersey, the New Jersey Horseman's Association, Monmouth Park, Darby Development, the Department of Agriculture, and the New Jersey Farm Bureau to strengthen and promote the long term future benefits and viabilities of New Jersey's equine industry, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Governor Mikie Sherrill, Senator Vin Gopal, Assemblywomen Margie Donlon and Luanne Peterpaul, Monmouth County Commissioners, and The New Jersey League of Municipalities.

I, Kathleen Capristo, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and accurate copy of a Resolution passed by the Township Committee of Colts Neck Township during the regular meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

*Kathleen Capristo*

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Kathleen Capristo, Municipal Clerk

| RECORD OF VOTE  |     |     |    |    |    |
|---|-----|-----|----|----|----|
|   | M S | Yes | No | NV | Ab |
| Mayor Viola   |     | X   |    |    |    |
| Deputy Mayor Buzzetta   | S   | X   |    |    |    |
| Rizzuto   |     | X   |    |    |    |
| Torchia Buss  |     | X   |    |    |    |
| Tobia   | M   | X   |    |    |    |
| M - Moved   S - Seconded   X - indicates vote   NV - Not Voting   Ab - Absent |     |     |    |    |    |