

Legislative Profile: Martin Garrick

Martin Garrick has had a deep-seated interest in horse racing since childhood, and brought that passion to Sacramento when he was elected in November 2006. As the Assemblyman from the 74th Assembly District, which includes Del Mar Racetrack, Garrick considers the racing industry among his top legislative interests.

“I believe that horse racing is vital to our economy,” Garrick said. “One of my goals while I’m here is to strengthen the industry by making California a more business-friendly state, not just for horse racing, but for all businesses.”

Prior to being elected to the Assembly, Garrick founded Admiral Industries, a telecommunications company, and Admiral Property Company, a real estate investment firm. A resident of Solana Beach, he served the community on the Solana Beach Crime Commission, Solana Beach Budget Committee, and the San Diego County Cable and Television Review Committee.

In his first year in the legislature, Garrick introduced Assembly Bill 1616, a TOC-sponsored bill that addresses the costly process of prohibited substance violation hearings. With the support of TOC as well as the California Horse Racing Board, AB 1616 has received no formal opposition, and appears to be on its way to the Governor’s desk.

“I appreciated the opportunity to carry AB 1616 for the TOC and CHRFB. As someone who grew up in a family that owned, bred and raced horses, I enjoyed being able to make a positive impact for the industry,” he said.

Garrick, whose district includes the coastal cities of Del Mar, Solana Beach, Encinitas and Carlsbad, as well as Vista, San Marcos and Escondido, is no stranger to the challenges faced by the horse racing industry.

His family started racing horses in the early 1960’s at Caliente and Del Mar, and continued to race through the 1990’s at Santa Anita, Hollywood Park, Golden Gate, Bay Meadows, and at his home track in Del Mar. Martin continues to enthusiastically follow horse racing in California and throughout the country.

As his first year in the legislature draws to a close, Garrick is excited to further develop his role as an ardent supporter of horse racing in California.

“I’m looking forward to working with the horse racing community to continue providing jobs to the tens of thousands of people employed by the racing industry in California, as well as a viable recreational option to the millions of racing enthusiasts in our state.”



Assemblyman Garrick and his wife, Jane, (front row, left) in the winners' circle for the 2006 Cal Cup Matron, won by Hollendorfer, Miller, Sikura, and Todaro's Somethinaboutlaura.