

CALIFORNIA THOROUGHBRED INDUSTRY

COALITION CONCEPT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose:

To form a focused coalition of key California Thoroughbred industry stakeholders for the limited purpose of educating the next Governor of California, and select likely gubernatorial candidates, regarding the industry's economic impact, employment base, and long-term sustainability.

Approach:

The coalition would present a unified, consistent, and non-partisan message emphasizing the importance of Thoroughbred racing to California. This effort is intended to be educational in nature and not a broad legislative or advocacy initiative.

Coalition Participants (Proposed):

CHRB, TOC, CTT, CTBA, 1/ST Racing, Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, Northern California representation, and other key stakeholders as appropriate. Participation would be at the senior leadership level.

Key Messaging Focus:

- Employment and economic contribution
- Long-term sustainability of California racing
- Competitiveness relative to other jurisdictions
- Importance of purse levels to industry stability
- Review of successful revenue-support models used in other states (e.g., Kentucky)

Scope:

- Limited to one or two likely gubernatorial candidates
- Consensus-driven
- Non-partisan
- Complementary to existing regulatory and advocacy efforts

Long-Term Objective:

To foster a constructive relationship between the Governor's office and the Thoroughbred industry, increase awareness of racing's contributions to California, and reinforce the State's connection to its Thoroughbred heritage.

Facilitation:

Leonard Miranda and Bing Bush are prepared to assist in facilitating this initiative, subject to CHRB participation and guidance.

Sent via email to: cschaney@chr.ca.gov

Scott Chaney
Executive Director
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Chaney,

My name is Leonard Miranda, owner of Integrity Thoroughbred Racing, LLC. I write on behalf of myself and Bing Bush, managing partner of Abbondanza Racing. We have had a few conversations with senior members of stakeholders in our industry about a coalition that we believe can assist California Horse Racing.

This letter summarizes those conversations and follows up on comments I made during the closing remarks of the February 26, 2026 CHR B meeting, where I introduced the concept of building a coalition of key stakeholders within California's Thoroughbred racing industry. As we approach the election of a new Governor in California, we believe this is a particularly important moment for the industry to speak with clarity, consistency, and unity about its role in the State.

Based on discussions among industry participants, our view is that the coalition's purpose should be narrow, practical, and focused. The goal would not be to advance a broad or fragmented agenda, but rather to identify, educate, and engage the most likely gubernatorial candidate or candidates regarding the importance of Thoroughbred racing to California.

Ideally, this effort would involve no more than one or two candidates and would present a unified message from the industry regarding employment, economic impact, and the need for long-term sustainability. A coalition comprised of representatives from the CHR B, TOC, CTT, CTBA, 1/ST Racing, Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, and other key stakeholders you deem appropriate could deliver a clear and consistent narrative about the industry's value to the State.

If consensus can be reached among industry leadership, the coalition could also develop a limited set of basic talking points focused on improving purses and overall competitiveness in California. This may include discussing tools that have been used successfully in other jurisdictions—such as Kentucky—including alternative or supplemental revenue models that have supported long-term industry strength. The underlying premise is straightforward: when purses improve, the industry becomes healthier, participation increases, and the economic and employment benefits extend across all segments of racing.

If we can align around a few core principles and speak with one voice, we believe this effort could be highly effective. In an ideal world, this relationship could eventually lead to visible engagement between State leadership and the industry—such as attendance by the

Governor at a major race day at Santa Anita or Del Mar, or even participation in a ceremonial presentation—reinforcing the connection between California and Thoroughbred racing.

Both Bing and I are eager to assist in facilitating this process in any way that is helpful. We believe the CHRB is central to this effort as the overarching authority in our industry, and we would welcome the opportunity to collaborate with a CHRB representative as this concept develops.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your leadership and look forward to working with you on this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Leonard Miranda
Integrity Thoroughbred Racing, LLC

Bing Bush
Abbondanza Racing