

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the General Government Appropriations Committee

BILL: CS/SB 20-C

INTRODUCER: General Government Appropriations Committee and Senator Alexander

SUBJECT: Pari-mutuel Wagering/Research

DATE: October 3, 2007 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Frederick/Matthews</u>	<u>DeLoach</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

This bill eliminates the requirement that funds from the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation be used for university-administered and directed research and development programs at the University of Florida.

This bill repeals section 1011.93, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Section 1011.93, Florida Statutes, relating to funding for universities, specifies that for each fiscal year, the first \$250,000 of the funds credited to the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund are to be used to fund the establishment and implementation of research and development programs at the University of Florida. The University of Florida is authorized to administer the distribution of the funds.

By statute, these programs must include, but are not limited to:

- Research related to the breeding, health, feeding, or training of dogs and horses.

- Development of continuing education programs for individuals involved in the care and treatment of dogs and horses at pari-mutuel facilities.
- Establishment of a postmodern evaluation program for break-down injuries of dogs and horses.
- Research and development of helmet safety and the improvement of jai alai equipment.

The current state budget for fiscal year 2007-08 (chapter 2007-72, Laws of Florida) specifies: “Funds in Specific Appropriation 2452G (\$300,000 from the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund) are provided for the pari-mutuel wagering funded research and development program. The University of Florida and the Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall jointly prioritize the programs or projects and administer the distribution of funds.”

In addition, section 550.135(2), F.S., provides that at the end of every fiscal year, all funds above \$1.5 million in the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund are transferred to the General Revenue Fund.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill repeals statutory provisions providing annual university funding for pari-mutuel wagering research and development pursuant to chapter 1011, Florida Statutes.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Proposed Committee Bill 8008 provides a \$300,000 reduction to the research program. With this reduction, deposits into the General Revenue Fund will increase by \$300,000 in the 2007-08 fiscal year.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

The bill eliminates the requirement that funds from the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation be used for university-administered and directed research and development programs at the University of Florida.

B. Amendments:

None.