

By Senator Holzendorf

2-1379-98

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to pari-mutuel wagering;
3 authorizing a permitholder that conducts
4 pari-mutuel wagering to conduct account
5 wagering, notwithstanding other provisions of
6 law; providing for wagers to be debited from an
7 account held by the permitholder; providing
8 notice requirements; providing for all forms of
9 pari-mutuel wagering to be available through
10 account wagering; providing for certain
11 deductions from account wagers; providing for
12 winnings to be credited to an account upon
13 confirmation of the race as official;
14 authorizing a permitholder to operate an
15 account-wagering center at a location
16 designated by the permitholder; providing for
17 the permitholder to provide services that link
18 transactions from an account holder to a
19 totalisator company; providing an effective
20 date.

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22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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24 Section 1. (1) Notwithstanding section 550.155,
25 Florida Statutes, any permitholder may conduct account
26 wagering in person, via telephonic device, or by communication
27 through other electronic media. A permitholder may conduct
28 account wagering only on the same class of race for which the
29 permitholder holds a permit or license.

30 (2) The permitholder conducting account wagering may
31 offer a wagering system whereby wagers are debited from, and

1 payments credited to, an account in the name of the account
2 holder, which account is held by the permitholder. The
3 permitholder shall notify all prospective account holders, at
4 the time of the opening of the account, of any rules or
5 procedures the permitholder has adopted with respect to
6 deposits, withdrawals, average daily balance, user or service
7 fees, interest payments, hours of operation, and any other
8 aspect of the operation of the account. The permitholder shall
9 notify each account holder whenever the rules governing the
10 account are changed. Such notification must occur before the
11 new rules are applied to the account, and the account holder
12 must be given the opportunity to close or cash in the account.
13 Each account holder shall be deemed to have accepted the rules
14 of account operation upon opening an account or failing to
15 close an account following any such change in account
16 operation.

17 (3) All forms of pari-mutuel wagering otherwise
18 available under law are authorized on wagers placed through
19 account wagering.

20 (4) Account wagering shall be conducted in compliance
21 with all state and federal laws and is subject to the
22 statutory provisions and rules that govern the placing of all
23 pari-mutuel wagers. An amount shall be deducted from each
24 account wager which is equal to the amount deducted on a
25 similar wager made in person from the wagering pool at the
26 permitholder's facility, and such amount is subject to the
27 same distribution as the amount deducted on a wager made in
28 person, including applicable pari-mutuel taxes.

29 (5) The total amount of all account wagers shall be
30 included in the respective pools of each race and shall be
31 combined into the permitholder's pools, or, if applicable,

1 directly into the corresponding pools of a host track in
2 another jurisdiction. The amount wagered in such pools from
3 wagering accounts shall be debited accordingly, and any
4 winnings shall be automatically credited to such accounts upon
5 the race being confirmed as official.

6 (6) The permitholder may operate an account-wagering
7 center at its pari-mutuel facility or at any other location
8 designated by the permitholder. If the permitholder operates
9 an account-wagering center at a place other than its
10 pari-mutuel facility, the permitholder must make its records
11 of credits and debits for all accounts that are part of the
12 account-wagering system available at its pari-mutuel facility.

13 (7) The permitholder shall appoint officers,
14 employees, or agents to manage and control the various aspects
15 of the account-wagering system. The permitholder shall provide
16 for services that link transactions from an account holder to
17 a totalisator company. The officers, employees, and agents
18 appointed by the permitholder are subject to the same standard
19 of review and oversight by the Division of Pari-mutuel
20 Wagering within the Department of Business and Professional
21 Regulation as are the totalisator companies that provide
22 totalisator services for the permitholder.

23 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998.

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26 SENATE SUMMARY

27 Provides for pari-mutuel wagering to be conducted through
28 an account established with a permitholder. Provides for
29 wagers to be debited from the account and winnings to be
30 credited to the account. Provides for account wagering to
31 be conducted at a pari-mutuel facility or at any location
designated by the permitholder. (See bill for details.)