

By Senator Geller

29-411-99

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to greyhound racing; amending
ss. 550.0951, 550.09514, F.S.; reducing the tax
on handle for permitholders from 7.6 percent to
5 percent; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section
550.0951, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to
read:

550.0951 Payment of daily license fee and taxes.--
(3) TAX ON HANDLE.--Each permitholder shall pay a tax
on contributions to pari-mutuel pools, the aggregate of which
is hereinafter referred to as "handle," on races or games
conducted by the permitholder. The tax is imposed daily and is
based on the total contributions to all pari-mutuel pools
conducted during the daily performance. If a permitholder
conducts more than one performance daily, the tax is imposed
on each performance separately.

(b) The tax on handle for dogracing is 5 ~~7.6~~ percent
of the handle and for jai alai is 7.1 percent of the handle.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 550.09514,
Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

550.09514 Greyhound dogracing taxes; purse
requirements.--

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of s.
550.0951(3)(b), wagering on greyhound racing is subject to a
tax on handle for live greyhound racing at the rate of 5 ~~7.6~~
percent of handle. Each permitholder shall pay the tax on
live handle in excess of \$100,000 per performance until such

1 time as this subsection has resulted in a tax savings per
2 state fiscal year of \$360,000. Thereafter, each permitholder
3 shall pay the tax provided in this subsection on all handle
4 for the remainder of the permitholder's current race meet, and
5 the tax must be calculated and commence beginning the day
6 after the biweekly period in which the permitholder reaches
7 the maximum tax savings per state fiscal year provided in this
8 section. For the three permitholders which conducted a full
9 schedule of live racing in 1995, and are closest to another
10 state which authorizes greyhound pari-mutuel wagering, the
11 maximum tax savings per state fiscal year shall be \$500,000.
12 The provisions of this subsection relating to tax exemptions
13 shall not apply to any charity or scholarship performances
14 conducted pursuant to s. 550.0351.

15 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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18 SENATE SUMMARY

19 Reduces the tax on handle for greyhound permitholders
20 from 7.6 percent to 5 percent.

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