

By Representative Andrews

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to pari-mutuel wagering;  
 3           creating s. 550.654, F.S.; creating the  
 4           Pari-mutuel Consolidation Act of 2000;  
 5           providing legislative intent; providing for the  
 6           consolidation of live operations under certain  
 7           circumstances; providing for intertrack  
 8           wagering; providing limitations; providing a  
 9           definition; providing requirements for  
 10          operation under the act; providing for  
 11          application; providing for deconsolidation;  
 12          amending s. 849.086, F.S.; conforming to the  
 13          act; providing requirements if more than one  
 14          permitholder operates at a facility; providing  
 15          an effective date.

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

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 19           Section 1. Section 550.654, Florida Statutes, is  
 20 created to read:

21           550.654 Consolidation of live pari-mutuel operations  
 22 authorized.--

23           (1) This section may be cited as the "Pari-mutuel  
 24 Consolidation Act of 2000."

25           (2) It is the intent of the Legislature to allow the  
 26 pari-mutuel industry to participate in emerging technology and  
 27 to consolidate live operations in overlapping market areas in  
 28 order to better utilize and maintain facilities through  
 29 economies of scale.

30           (3) In the event that any two permitholders with the  
 31 same class of permit are located in overlapping market areas,

1 by mutual agreement either one of them may, at any time,  
2 consolidate live operations with the other by leasing the  
3 other permitholder's pari-mutuel facilities for the operation  
4 of its entire live meet.

5 (4) Provided that the lessee permitholder has operated  
6 a full schedule of live racing or games during the preceding  
7 year, it shall be entitled to be licensed to conduct  
8 intertrack wagering at either the consolidated pari-mutuel  
9 facilities or at a separate intertrack facility located within  
10 its market area, provided that the intertrack facility does  
11 not operate within the market area of any other permitholder  
12 of the same class during that permitholder's live meet unless  
13 it first obtains the written consent of the same class  
14 operating permitholder.

15 (5) The number of locations with pari-mutuel wagering  
16 after any consolidation of pari-mutuel permits shall not be  
17 expanded beyond the number of locations that would be  
18 permissible if all pari-mutuel permitholders were to conduct  
19 live performances at facilities of their own.

20 (6) An "intertrack facility" means a pari-mutuel  
21 facility used by a permitholder to conduct intertrack wagering  
22 as defined in s. 550.002(17), and shall constitute a guest  
23 track as defined in s. 550.002. Intertrack facilities shall be  
24 permitted to conduct intertrack wagering at any time on the  
25 same class of races or games as their permitholders and on  
26 those pari-mutuel events on which the permitholders would be  
27 able to accept intertrack wagers if they were conducting live  
28 operations at the locations of their intertrack facilities,  
29 and except as provided in this section, shall be subject to  
30 the provisions of ss. 550.3551, 550.615, 550.625, and  
31 550.6305. A wager at an intertrack facility authorized by this

1 section constitutes an intertrack wager as this term is  
2 defined in s. 550.002. The provisions of s. 565.02 shall also  
3 apply to each intertrack facility.

4 (7) Two or more permitholders participating in a  
5 consolidation of live operations may form a business entity to  
6 operate one or more intertrack facilities, provided that in no  
7 event shall the total number of live pari-mutuel and  
8 intertrack facilities exceed the number of pari-mutuel  
9 facilities that would exist if all pari-mutuel permitholders  
10 were conducting live operations at their own facilities, and  
11 further provided that no person, firm, or entity except a  
12 pari-mutuel entity shall own, directly or indirectly, any  
13 interest in an intertrack facility.

14 (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
15 chapter, a permitholder which has consolidated and is  
16 conducting its live performances at the facility of another  
17 same class permitholder shall pay taxes on live and intertrack  
18 handle at a rate which is no higher than any other same class  
19 permitholder which operates at the same facility.

20 (9) The provisions of this section apply equally to  
21 every consolidation of live pari-mutuel operations resulting  
22 in more than one permitholder operating at the same location,  
23 regardless of the date of such consolidation.

24 (10) Nothing contained within this chapter shall  
25 prevent a permitholder which has consolidated its live  
26 operations at the location of another permitholder from  
27 deconsolidating and operating its live performances at any  
28 other location permitted by law.

29 Section 2. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (5) of  
30 section 849.086, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

31 849.086 Cardrooms authorized.--

1           (5) LICENSE REQUIRED; APPLICATION; FEES.--No person  
2 may operate a cardroom in this state unless such person holds  
3 a valid cardroom license issued pursuant to this section.  
4           (b) After the initial cardroom license is granted, the  
5 application for the annual license renewal shall be made in  
6 conjunction with the applicant's annual application for its  
7 pari-mutuel license. In order for a cardroom license to be  
8 renewed the applicant must have requested, as part of its  
9 pari-mutuel annual license application, to conduct at least 90  
10 percent of the total number of live performances conducted by  
11 such permitholder during either the state fiscal year in which  
12 its initial cardroom license was issued or the state fiscal  
13 year immediately prior thereto, or, in the event that more  
14 than one permitholder is operating at a facility, each of the  
15 permitholders must have applied for a license to conduct a  
16 full schedule of live racing.  
17           (d) The annual cardroom license fee for each facility  
18 shall be \$1,000 for the first table and \$500 for each  
19 additional table to be operated at the cardroom. This license  
20 fee shall be deposited by the division with the Treasurer to  
21 the credit of the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund.  
22           Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
23 law.

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26 HOUSE SUMMARY

27  
28 Creates the "Pari-mutuel Consolidation Act of 2000" to  
29 allow the pari-mutuel industry to participate in emerging  
30 technology and to consolidate live operations in  
31 overlapping market areas in order to better utilize and  
maintain facilities through economies of scale. See bill  
for details.

**CODING:**Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.