

By the Committee on Regulated Industries and Senator Geller

315-1670-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the operation of cardrooms;
3 amending s. 849.086, F.S.; authorizing a
4 permitholder to amend a license renewal
5 application in certain circumstances;
6 prescribing licensing requirements when more
7 than one permitholder uses the same facility;
8 providing cardroom license fees; revising
9 standards on when cardrooms may be operated and
10 the amount of bets allowable for each round,
11 hand, or game; authorizing facilities to award
12 prizes; revising the rate of the gross receipts
13 tax on admissions; revising the amount of
14 cardroom receipts that must be used to
15 supplement greyhound and jai alai purses;
16 providing an effective date.

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

19
20 Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (5),
21 subsections (7) and (8), and paragraphs (a) and (d) of
22 subsection (13) of section 849.086, Florida Statutes, are
23 amended to read:

24 849.086 Cardrooms authorized.--

25 (5) LICENSE REQUIRED; APPLICATION; FEES.--No person
26 may operate a cardroom in this state unless such person holds
27 a valid cardroom license issued pursuant to this section.

28 (b) After the initial cardroom license is granted, the
29 application for the annual license renewal shall be made in
30 conjunction with the applicant's annual application for its
31 pari-mutuel license. Any permitholder that has operated a

1 cardroom during the previous fiscal year and neglected to
2 include a renewal request for the operation of its cardroom
3 with its annual license renewal application is entitled to
4 amend its annual application for such operation.In order for
5 a cardroom license to be renewed the applicant must have
6 requested, as part of its pari-mutuel annual license
7 application, to conduct at least 90 percent of the total
8 number of live performances conducted by such permitholder
9 during either the state fiscal year in which its initial
10 cardroom license was issued or the state fiscal year
11 immediately prior thereto, or, if a harness permitholder
12 cardroom application, to conduct a minimum of 140 live
13 performances during the state fiscal year immediately prior
14 thereto, or, if more than one permitholder is operating at a
15 facility, each of the permitholders must have applied for a
16 license to conduct a full schedule of live racing or games.

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 (7) CONDITIONS FOR OPERATING A CARDROOM.--

23 (a) A cardroom may only be operated at the location
24 specified on the cardroom license issued by the division, and
25 such location may only be the location at which the
26 pari-mutuel permitholder is authorized to conduct pari-mutuel
27 wagering activities pursuant to such permitholder's valid
28 pari-mutuel permit or is otherwise authorized by law ~~and~~
29 ~~current license.~~

30 (b) A cardroom may be operated at the facility only
31 when the facility is authorized to accept wagers on

1 pari-mutuel events ~~during its authorized meet~~. A cardroom may
2 begin operations within 2 hours prior to the post time of the
3 first pari-mutuel event ~~conducted live at the pari-mutuel~~
4 ~~facility~~ on which wagers are accepted by the facility and must
5 cease operations by 2 a.m. on the following day ~~within 2 hours~~
6 ~~after the conclusion of the last pari-mutuel event conducted~~
7 ~~live at the pari-mutuel facility on which wagers are accepted.~~

8 (c) A cardroom operator must at all times employ and
9 provide a nonplaying dealer for each table on which authorized
10 card games which traditionally utilize a dealer are conducted
11 at the cardroom. Such dealers may not have any participatory
12 interest in any game other than the dealing of cards and may
13 not have an interest in the outcome of the game. The
14 providing of such dealers by a licensee shall not be construed
15 as constituting the conducting of a banking game by the
16 cardroom operator.

17 (d) A facility that operates a cardroom may award
18 giveaways or prizes to players who hold combinations of cards
19 specified by the cardroom operator.

20 (e)~~(d)~~ Each cardroom operator shall conspicuously post
21 upon the premises of the cardroom a notice which contains a
22 copy of the cardroom license; a list of authorized games
23 offered by the cardroom; the wagering limits imposed by the
24 house, if any; any additional house rules regarding operation
25 of the cardroom or the playing of any game; and all costs to
26 players to participate, including any rake by the house. In
27 addition, each cardroom operator shall post at each table a
28 notice of the minimum and maximum bets authorized at such
29 table and the fee for participation in the game conducted.

30 (f)~~(e)~~ The cardroom facility shall be subject to
31 inspection by the division or any law enforcement agency

1 during the licensee's regular business hours. The inspection
2 will specifically encompass the permitholder internal control
3 procedures approved by the division.

4 (g)~~(f)~~ A cardroom operator may refuse entry to or
5 refuse to allow to play any person who is objectionable,
6 undesirable, or disruptive, but such refusal shall not be on
7 the basis of race, creed, color, religion, sex, national
8 origin, marital status, physical handicap, or age, except as
9 provided in this section.

10 (8) METHOD OF WAGERS; LIMITATION.--

11 (a) No wagering may be conducted using money or other
12 negotiable currency. Games may only be played utilizing a
13 wagering system whereby all players' money is first converted
14 by the house to tokens or chips which shall be used for
15 wagering only at that specific cardroom.

16 (b) The cardroom operator may limit the amount wagered
17 in any game or series of games, but the maximum bet ~~The~~
18 ~~winnings of any player in a single round, hand, or game may~~
19 ~~not exceed\$2\$10 in value.~~ There may be no more than three
20 raises in any round of betting.The fee charged by the
21 cardroom for participation in the game shall not be included
22 in the calculation of the limitation on the bet ~~pot~~ size
23 provided in this paragraph.

24 (13) TAXES AND OTHER PAYMENTS.--

25 (a) Each cardroom operator shall pay a tax to the
26 state of 2 ~~10~~ percent of the cardroom operation's monthly
27 gross receipts.

28 (d) Each greyhound and jai alai permitholder that
29 ~~which~~ operates a cardroom facility shall utilize at least 10 ~~4~~
30 percent of such permitholder's cardroom monthly gross receipts
31 to supplement greyhound purses or jai alai prize money,

1 respectively, during the permitholder's next ensuing
2 pari-mutuel meet. Each thoroughbred and harness horse racing
3 permitholder that ~~which~~ operates a cardroom facility shall
4 utilize at least 50 percent of such permitholder's cardroom
5 monthly net proceeds as follows: 47 percent to supplement
6 purses and 3 percent to supplement breeders' awards during the
7 permitholder's next ensuing racing meet.

8 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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10 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
11 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
12 SB 104

13 Allows permitholders that operated a cardroom in the previous
14 fiscal year but did not renew its request to amend its annual
application to include cardroom operations.

15 Provides criteria for when harness racing permitholders may
16 apply for a cardroom license.

17 Modifies the location where a cardroom may be operated to the
18 location the permitholder is authorized to conduct pari-mutuel
wagering activities pursuant to its valid permit or its
otherwise authorized by law.

19 Expands when a facility may operate a cardroom to anytime it
20 is authorized to accept wagers on parimutuel events.