

By Senator Wasserman Schultz

32-136A-02

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to pari-mutuel wagering;
3 requiring dogracing permitholders to provide a
4 greyhound-adoption booth at each dogracing
5 facility in the state; requiring that the booth
6 be operated by certain qualified persons on
7 weekends; requiring that information concerning
8 the adoption of a greyhound be made available
9 to the public at the facility; requiring the
10 permitholder to provide adoption information in
11 racing programs and to identify greyhounds that
12 will become available for adoption; authorizing
13 the permitholder to hold an additional charity
14 day that is designated as "Greyhound
15 Adopt-A-Pet Day"; requiring that profits
16 derived from the charity day be used to fund
17 activities promoting the adoption of
18 greyhounds; authorizing the Division of
19 Pari-mutuel Wagering within the Department of
20 Business and Professional Regulation to adopt
21 rules; providing penalties; amending s.
22 550.1647, F.S., relating to unclaimed tickets
23 and breaks with respect to greyhound racing;
24 defining the term "bona fide organization that
25 promotes or encourages the adoption of
26 greyhounds"; providing an effective date.

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

30 Section 1. Greyhound adoptions.--

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1 (1) Each dogracing permitholder operating a dogracing
2 facility in this state shall provide for a greyhound-adoption
3 booth to be located at the facility. The greyhound-adoption
4 booth must be operated on weekends by personnel or volunteers
5 from a bona fide organization that promotes or encourages the
6 adoption of greyhounds pursuant to section 550.1647, Florida
7 Statutes. As used in this section, the term "weekend" includes
8 the hours during which live greyhound racing is conducted on
9 Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Information pamphlets and
10 application forms shall be provided to the public upon
11 request. In addition, the kennel operator or owner shall
12 notify the permitholder that a greyhound is available for
13 adoption and the permitholder shall provide information
14 concerning the adoption of a greyhound in each race program
15 and shall post adoption information at conspicuous locations
16 throughout the dogracing facility. Any greyhound that is
17 participating in a race and that will be available for future
18 adoption must be noted in the race program. The permitholder
19 shall allow greyhounds to be walked through the track facility
20 to publicize the greyhound-adoption program.

21 (2) In addition to the charity days authorized under
22 section 550.0351, Florida Statutes, a greyhound permitholder
23 may fund the greyhound-adoption program by holding a charity
24 racing day designated as "Greyhound Adopt-A-Pet Day." All
25 profits derived from the operation of the charity day must be
26 placed into a fund used to support activities at the racing
27 facility which promote the adoption of greyhounds. The
28 division may adopt rules for administering the fund. Proceeds
29 from the charity day authorized in this subsection may not be
30 used as a source of funds for the purposes set forth in
31 section 550.1647, Florida Statutes.

1 (3)(a) Upon a violation of this section by a
2 permitholder or licensee, the division may impose a penalty as
3 provided in section 550.0251(10), Florida Statutes, and
4 require the permitholder to take corrective action.

5 (b) A penalty imposed under section 550.0251(10),
6 Florida Statutes, does not exclude a prosecution for cruelty
7 to animals or for any other criminal act.

8 Section 2. Section 550.1647, Florida Statutes, is
9 amended to read:

10 550.1647 Greyhound permitholders; unclaimed tickets;
11 breaks.--All money or other property represented by any
12 unclaimed, uncashed, or abandoned pari-mutuel ticket which has
13 remained in the custody of or under the control of any
14 permitholder authorized to conduct greyhound racing
15 pari-mutuel pools in this state for a period of 1 year after
16 the date the pari-mutuel ticket was issued, if the rightful
17 owner or owners thereof have made no claim or demand for such
18 money or other property within that period of time, shall,
19 with respect to live races conducted by the permitholder, be
20 remitted to the state pursuant to s. 550.1645; however, such
21 permitholder shall be entitled to a credit in each state
22 fiscal year in an amount equal to the actual amount remitted
23 in the prior state fiscal year which may be applied against
24 any taxes imposed pursuant to this chapter. In addition, each
25 permitholder shall pay, from any source, including the
26 proceeds from performances conducted pursuant to s. 550.0351,
27 an amount not less than 10 percent of the amount of the credit
28 provided by this section to any bona fide organization that
29 promotes or encourages the adoption of greyhounds. As used in
30 this section, the term "bona fide organization that promotes
31 or encourages the adoption of greyhounds" means any

1 organization that provides evidence of compliance with chapter
2 496 and possesses a valid exemption from federal taxation
3 issued by the Internal Revenue Service. Such bona fide
4 organization, as a condition of adoption, must provide
5 sterilization of greyhounds by a licensed veterinarian before
6 relinquishing custody of the greyhound to the adoptor. The fee
7 for sterilization may be included in the cost of adoption.

8 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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11 SENATE SUMMARY

12 Requires greyhound racing permitholders to provide for a
13 greyhound-adoption booth to be located at the dogracing
14 facility. Requires that the racing program contain
15 adoption information and identify greyhounds that will
16 become available for adoption. Authorizes the
permitholder to hold an additional charity day,
17 designated as "Greyhound Adopt-A-Pet Day," and use the
18 profits from the charity day to fund activities promoting
19 greyhound adoptions. Provides penalties.
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