



HB 1783

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to pari-mutuel wagering; requiring  
3 dogracing permitholders to provide a greyhound adoption  
4 booth at each dogracing facility; providing for operation  
5 of such booths; requiring that certain information  
6 concerning the adoption of a greyhound be made available  
7 to the public; requiring kennel owner or operator to  
8 notify the permitholder that a greyhound is available for  
9 adoption; providing procedures for public identification  
10 of such greyhounds; authorizing the permitholder to hold  
11 an additional charity day that is designated as "Greyhound  
12 Adopt-A-Pet Day"; requiring that moneys derived from the  
13 charity day be used for certain activities; authorizing  
14 the Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering within the Department  
15 of Business and Professional Regulation to adopt rules;  
16 providing penalties; amending s. 550.1647, F.S.; defining  
17 the term "bona fide organization that promotes or  
18 encourages the adoption of greyhounds" for purposes of  
19 distribution of certain funds; providing an effective  
20 date.

21  
22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

23  
24 Section 1. Greyhound adoptions.--

25 (1) Each dogracing permitholder operating a dogracing  
26 facility in this state shall provide for a greyhound adoption  
27 booth to be located at the facility. The greyhound adoption  
28 booth must be operated on weekends by personnel or volunteers  
29 from a bona fide organization that promotes or encourages the  
30 adoption of greyhounds pursuant to s. 550.1647, Florida



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31 Statutes. As used in this section, the term "weekend" includes  
32 the hours during which live greyhound racing is conducted on  
33 Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Information pamphlets and  
34 application forms shall be provided to the public upon request.  
35 In addition, the kennel operator or owner shall notify the  
36 permitholder that a greyhound is available for adoption and the  
37 permitholder shall provide information concerning the adoption  
38 of a greyhound in each race program and shall post adoption  
39 information at conspicuous locations throughout the dogracing  
40 facility. Any greyhound that is participating in a race and that  
41 will be available for future adoption must be noted in the race  
42 program. The permitholder shall allow greyhounds to be walked  
43 through the track facility to publicize the greyhound adoption  
44 program.

45 (2) In addition to the charity days authorized under s.  
46 550.0351, Florida Statutes, a greyhound permitholder may fund  
47 the greyhound adoption program by holding a charity racing day  
48 designated as "Greyhound Adopt-A-Pet Day." All profits derived  
49 from the operation of such charity day must be placed into a  
50 fund used to support activities at the racing facility which  
51 promote the adoption of greyhounds. The division may adopt rules  
52 for administering the fund. Proceeds from the charity day  
53 authorized in this subsection may not be used as a source of  
54 funds for the purposes set forth in s. 550.1647, Florida  
55 Statutes.

56 (3)(a) Upon a violation of this section by a permitholder  
57 or licensee, the division may impose a penalty as provided in s.  
58 550.0251(10), Florida Statutes, and require the permitholder to  
59 take corrective action.



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60           (b) A penalty imposed under s. 550.0251(10), Florida  
61 Statutes, does not exclude a prosecution for cruelty to animals  
62 or for any other criminal act.

63           Section 2. Section 550.1647, Florida Statutes, is amended  
64 to read:

65           550.1647 Greyhound permitholders; unclaimed tickets;  
66 breaks.--All money or other property represented by any  
67 unclaimed, uncashed, or abandoned pari-mutuel ticket which has  
68 remained in the custody of or under the control of any  
69 permitholder authorized to conduct greyhound racing pari-mutuel  
70 pools in this state for a period of 1 year after the date the  
71 pari-mutuel ticket was issued, if the rightful owner or owners  
72 thereof have made no claim or demand for such money or other  
73 property within that period of time, shall, with respect to live  
74 races conducted by the permitholder, be remitted to the state  
75 pursuant to s. 550.1645; however, such permitholder shall be  
76 entitled to a credit in each state fiscal year in an amount  
77 equal to the actual amount remitted in the prior state fiscal  
78 year which may be applied against any taxes imposed pursuant to  
79 this chapter. In addition, each permitholder shall pay, from any  
80 source, including the proceeds from performances conducted  
81 pursuant to s. 550.0351, an amount not less than 10 percent of  
82 the amount of the credit provided by this section to any bona  
83 fide organization that promotes or encourages the adoption of  
84 greyhounds. As used in this section, the term "bona fide  
85 organization that promotes or encourages the adoption of  
86 greyhounds" means any organization that provides evidence of  
87 compliance with chapter 496 and possesses a valid exemption from  
88 federal taxation issued by the Internal Revenue Service. Such  
89 bona fide organization, as a condition of adoption, must provide



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90 sterilization of greyhounds by a licensed veterinarian before  
91 relinquishing custody of the greyhound to the adoptor. The fee  
92 for sterilization may be included in the cost of adoption.

93 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.