

HB 0941

2004

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

23
 24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

25
 26 Section 1. Greyhound adoptions.--
 27 (1) Each dogracing permitholder operating a dogracing
 28 facility in this state shall provide for a greyhound-adoption
 29 booth to be located at the facility. The greyhound-adoption

HB 0941

2004

30 booth must be operated on weekends by personnel or volunteers
 31 from a bona fide organization that promotes or encourages the
 32 adoption of greyhounds pursuant to section 550.1647, Florida
 33 Statutes. As used in this section, the term "weekend" includes
 34 the hours during which live greyhound racing is conducted on
 35 Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Information pamphlets and
 36 application forms shall be provided to the public upon request.
 37 In addition, the kennel operator or owner shall notify the
 38 permitholder that a greyhound is available for adoption and the
 39 permitholder shall provide information concerning the adoption
 40 of a greyhound in each race program and shall post adoption
 41 information at conspicuous locations throughout the dogracing
 42 facility. Any greyhound that is participating in a race and that
 43 will be available for future adoption must be noted in the race
 44 program. The permitholder shall allow greyhounds to be walked
 45 through the track facility to publicize the greyhound-adoption
 46 program.

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

HB 0941

2004

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

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

65 Section 2. Section 550.1647, Florida Statutes, is amended
 66 to read:

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

HB 0941

2004

87 organization that promotes or encourages the adoption of
88 greyhounds" means any organization that provides evidence of
89 compliance with chapter 496 and possesses a valid exemption from
90 federal taxation issued by the Internal Revenue Service. Such
91 bona fide organization, as a condition of adoption, must provide
92 sterilization of greyhounds by a licensed veterinarian before
93 relinquishing custody of the greyhound to the adopter. The fee
94 for sterilization may be included in the cost of adoption.

95 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.