

By Senator Garcia

40-1160-05

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to thoroughbred racing;
3 amending s. 550.5251, F.S.; deleting a
4 requirement that certain permitholders operate
5 a specified number of days each season;
6 clarifying that certain permits continue in
7 effect despite actions by regulatory
8 authorities; extending a qualifying period for
9 certain permittees; providing an effective
10 date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section
15 550.5251, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

16 550.5251 Florida thoroughbred racing; certain permits;
17 operating days.--

18 (1) Each thoroughbred permitholder under whose permit
19 thoroughbred racing was conducted in this state at any time
20 between January 1, 1987, and January 1, 2005 ~~1988~~, shall
21 annually be entitled to apply for and annually receive
22 thoroughbred racing days and dates as set forth in this
23 section. As regards such permitholders, the annual
24 thoroughbred racing season shall be from June 1 of any year
25 through May 31 of the following year and shall be known as the
26 "Florida Thoroughbred Racing Season."

27 (2) Each permitholder referred to in subsection (1)
28 shall annually, during the period commencing December 15 of
29 each year and ending January 4 of the following year, file in
30 writing with the division its application to conduct one or
31 more thoroughbred racing meetings during the thoroughbred

1 racing season commencing on the following June 1. Each
2 application shall specify the number and dates of all
3 performances that the permitholder intends to conduct during
4 that thoroughbred racing season. On or before February 15 of
5 each year, the division shall issue a license authorizing each
6 permitholder to conduct performances on the dates specified in
7 its application. Up to March 31 of each year, each
8 permitholder may request and shall be granted changes in its
9 authorized performances; ~~but thereafter, as a condition~~
10 ~~precedent to the validity of its license and its right to~~
11 ~~retain its permit, each permitholder must operate the full~~
12 ~~number of days authorized on each of the dates set forth in~~
13 ~~its license.~~

14 (3) Each thoroughbred permit referred to in subsection
15 (1), including, but not limited to, any permit originally
16 issued as a summer thoroughbred horse racing permit, is hereby
17 validated and shall continue in full force and effect, and
18 irrespective of any action that the division may have taken or
19 may take against the permittee.

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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23 SENATE SUMMARY

24 Revises provisions relating to thoroughbred racing.
25 Extends a qualifying period for permittees. Deletes a
26 requirement that permitholders operate a specified number
27 of days each season. Clarifies that certain permits
28 continue in effect despite actions by regulatory
29 authorities.
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