

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: Regulated Industries Committee

BILL: SB 956

SPONSOR: Senator Jones

SUBJECT: Pari-mutuel Industry

DATE: April 14, 2005

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Sumner	Imhof	RI	Pre-meeting
2.	_____	_____	GE	_____
3.	_____	_____	GA	_____
4.	_____	_____	WM	_____
5.	_____	_____	RC	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

The bill provides that it is the intent of the Legislature to revise laws relating to the pari-mutuel industry.

II. Present Situation:

The regulation of the pari-mutuel industry is governed by ch. 550, F.S. Regulation is administered by the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering (division) within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR). The pari-mutuel industry consists of thoroughbred racing, harness racing, greyhound racing, jai alai, and cardrooms located at pari-mutuel facilities. According to the division, there are 18 greyhound permits operating at 16 greyhound tracks, seven jai alai permits¹ operating at five frontons, five thoroughbred permits operating at three thoroughbred tracks, and one harness permit operating at one harness track.² There are also nine inactive permits of which two are greyhound permits, three are jai alai permits, and four are quarter horse permits. Horseracing wagering permits can not become inactive.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill provides that it is the intent of the Legislature to revise laws relating to the pari-mutuel industry.

¹ A permit and license has also been issued to a fronton in Hamilton County, to begin operation next fiscal year, July 1, 2005.

² Existence of Hialeah's permit is currently on appeal.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
