

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to cardrooms; amending s. 849.086, F.S.;  
 3           revising the period during which a cardroom may operate;  
 4           clarifying awards that a cardroom may give to certain  
 5           winners; authorizing certain tournaments; requiring the  
 6           Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering in the Department of  
 7           Business and Professional Regulation to adopt rules;  
 8           providing an effective date.

9  
 10   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
 12           Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 849.086, Florida  
 13   Statutes, is amended to read:

14           849.086 Cardrooms authorized.--

15           (7) CONDITIONS FOR OPERATING A CARDROOM.--

16           (a) A cardroom may be operated only at the location  
 17   specified on the cardroom license issued by the division, and  
 18   such location may only be the location at which the pari-mutuel  
 19   permitholder is authorized to conduct pari-mutuel wagering  
 20   activities pursuant to such permitholder's valid pari-mutuel  
 21   permit or as otherwise authorized by law.

22           (b) A cardroom may be operated at the facility only when  
 23   the facility is authorized to accept wagers on pari-mutuel  
 24   events ~~during its authorized meet~~. A cardroom may operate  
 25   between the hours of 10 a.m. 12 noon and 2 a.m., Monday through  
 26   Thursday, and continuously from Friday at 10 a.m. until Monday  
 27   at 2 a.m. 12 midnight on any day a pari-mutuel event is  
 28   ~~conducted live as a part of its authorized meet. However, a~~

HB 1377

2007

29 ~~permitholder who holds a valid cardroom license may operate a~~  
30 ~~cardroom between the hours of 12 noon and 12 midnight on any day~~  
31 ~~that live racing of the same class of permit is occurring within~~  
32 ~~35 miles of its facility if no other holder of that same class~~  
33 ~~of permit within 35 miles is operating a cardroom at such time~~  
34 ~~and if all holders of the same class of permit within the 35-~~  
35 ~~mile area have given their permission in writing to the~~  
36 ~~permitholder to operate the cardroom during the designated~~  
37 ~~period. Application to operate a cardroom under this paragraph~~  
38 ~~must be made to the division as part of the annual license~~  
39 ~~application.~~

40 (c) A cardroom operator must at all times employ and  
41 provide a nonplaying dealer for each table on which authorized  
42 card games which traditionally utilize a dealer are conducted at  
43 the cardroom. Such dealers may not have any participatory  
44 interest in any game other than the dealing of cards and may not  
45 have an interest in the outcome of the game. The providing of  
46 such dealers by a licensee shall not be construed as  
47 constituting the conducting of a banking game by the cardroom  
48 operator.

49 (d) A cardroom may award giveaways, jackpots, prizes, or  
50 progressives to an individual or group of players who hold  
51 certain combinations of cards specified by the cardroom  
52 operator.

53 (e) A cardroom may conduct tournaments in which each  
54 player contributes an equal amount to a prize pool for the  
55 opportunity to win a portion of the aggregate proceeds. The  
56 Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering of the Department of Business

HB 1377

2007

57 and Professional Regulation shall adopt rules regulating  
58 cardroom tournaments, including rules establishing maximum-buy-  
59 in amounts, number of players, amount of betting units, and  
60 payout scales.

61 (f)~~(d)~~ Each cardroom operator shall conspicuously post  
62 upon the premises of the cardroom a notice which contains a copy  
63 of the cardroom license; a list of authorized games offered by  
64 the cardroom; the wagering limits imposed by the house, if any;  
65 any additional house rules regarding operation of the cardroom  
66 or the playing of any game; and all costs to players to  
67 participate, including any rake by the house. In addition, each  
68 cardroom operator shall post at each table a notice of the  
69 minimum and maximum bets authorized at such table and the fee  
70 for participation in the game conducted.

71 (g)~~(e)~~ The cardroom facility shall be subject to  
72 inspection by the division or any law enforcement agency during  
73 the licensee's regular business hours. The inspection will  
74 specifically encompass the permitholder internal control  
75 procedures approved by the division.

76 (h)~~(f)~~ A cardroom operator may refuse entry to or refuse  
77 to allow to play any person who is objectionable, undesirable,  
78 or disruptive, but such refusal shall not be on the basis of  
79 race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital  
80 status, physical handicap, or age, except as provided in this  
81 section.

82 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.