

1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to cardrooms; amending s. 849.086, F.S.;  
 3           providing definitions; authorizing cardroom operators to  
 4           host high-stakes poker tournaments and high-stakes  
 5           dominoes tournaments at certain pari-mutuel facilities;  
 6           providing limitations; providing an effective date.

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

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 10           Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 849.086, Florida  
 11           Statutes, is amended, present subsections (9) through (17) of  
 12           that section are redesignated as subsections (11) through (19),  
 13           respectively, and new subsections (9) and (10) are added to that  
 14           section, to read:

15           849.086 Cardrooms authorized.--

16           (2) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section:

17           (a) "Authorized game" means a game or series of games of  
 18           poker which are played in a nonbanking manner.

19           (b) "Banking game" means a game in which the house is a  
 20           participant in the game, taking on players, paying winners, and  
 21           collecting from losers or in which the cardroom establishes a  
 22           bank against which participants play.

23           (c) "Cardroom" means a facility where authorized card  
 24           games are played for money or anything of value and to which the  
 25           public is invited to participate in such games and charged a fee  
 26           for participation by the operator of such facility. Authorized  
 27           games and cardrooms do not constitute casino gaming operations.

28           (d) "Cardroom management company" means any individual not

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29 an employee of the cardroom operator, any proprietorship,  
30 partnership, corporation, or other entity that enters into an  
31 agreement with a cardroom operator to manage, operate, or  
32 otherwise control the daily operation of a cardroom.

33 (e) "Cardroom distributor" means any business that  
34 distributes cardroom paraphernalia such as card tables, betting  
35 chips, chip holders, drop boxes, banking supplies, playing  
36 cards, card shufflers, and other associated equipment to  
37 authorized cardrooms.

38 (f) "Cardroom operator" means a licensed pari-mutuel  
39 permitholder which holds a valid permit and license issued by  
40 the division pursuant to chapter 550 and which also holds a  
41 valid cardroom license issued by the division pursuant to this  
42 section which authorizes such person to operate a cardroom and  
43 to conduct authorized games in such cardroom.

44 (g) "Division" means the Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering  
45 of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

46 (h) "Dominoes" means flat rectangular blocks the faces of  
47 which are divided into two equal parts that are blank or include  
48 from one to six dots arranged in a pattern.

49 (i) "High-stakes dominoes" means a game of dominoes which  
50 is played using a set of 28 dominoes and without limits on the  
51 amount wagered in any game or series of games or without limits  
52 on the rounds of betting.

53 (j)~~(h)~~ "Gross receipts" means the total amount of money  
54 received by a cardroom from any person for participation in  
55 authorized games.

56 (k) "High-stakes poker" means a game of poker which is

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57 played without limits on the amount wagered in any game or  
58 series of games or without limits on the rounds of betting  
59 established in this section.

60 (l)~~(i)~~ "House" means the cardroom operator and all  
61 employees of the cardroom operator.

62 (m)~~(j)~~ "Net proceeds" means the total amount of gross  
63 receipts received by a cardroom operator from cardroom  
64 operations less direct operating expenses related to cardroom  
65 operations, including labor costs, admission taxes only if a  
66 separate admission fee is charged for entry to the cardroom  
67 facility, gross receipts taxes imposed on cardroom operators by  
68 this section, the annual cardroom license fees imposed by this  
69 section on each table operated at a cardroom, and reasonable  
70 promotional costs excluding officer and director compensation,  
71 interest on capital debt, legal fees, real estate taxes, bad  
72 debts, contributions or donations, or overhead and depreciation  
73 expenses not directly related to the operation of the cardrooms.

74 (n)~~(k)~~ "Rake" means a set fee or percentage of the pot  
75 assessed by a cardroom operator for providing the services of a  
76 dealer, table, or location for playing the authorized game.

77 (9) HIGH-STAKES POKER TOURNAMENTS.--A cardroom operator  
78 may host a high-stakes poker tournament twice each year for 1  
79 week at a pari-mutuel facility that is authorized to operate  
80 cardrooms during the hours that the pari-mutuel facility is open  
81 to conduct business. Such a tournament may be conducted only  
82 once in any 6-month period.

83 (10) HIGH-STAKES DOMINOES TOURNAMENTS.--A cardroom  
84 operator may host a high-stakes dominoes tournament twice each

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85 year for 1 week at a pari-mutuel facility that is authorized to  
86 operate cardrooms during the hours that the pari-mutuel facility  
87 is open to conduct business. Such a tournament may be conducted  
88 only once in any 6-month period.

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