

By Senator Geller

31-462-07

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to cardrooms; amending s.

3 849.086, F.S.; revising the period during which

4 a cardroom may operate; clarifying awards that

5 a cardroom may give to certain winners;

6 authorizing certain tournaments; requiring the

7 Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering in the

8 Department of Business and Professional

9 Regulation to adopt rules; providing an

10 effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 849.086, Florida

15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 849.086 Cardrooms authorized.--

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

18 (a) A cardroom may be operated only at the location

19 specified on the cardroom license issued by the division, and

20 such location may only be the location at which the

21 pari-mutuel permitholder is authorized to conduct pari-mutuel

22 wagering activities pursuant to such permitholder's valid

23 pari-mutuel permit or as otherwise authorized by law.

24 (b) A cardroom may be operated at the facility only

25 when the facility is authorized to accept wagers on

26 pari-mutuel events ~~during its authorized meet~~. A cardroom may

27 operate between the hours of 10 a.m. 12 noon and 2 a.m.,

28 Monday through Thursday, and continuously from Friday at 10

29 a.m. until Monday at 2 a.m. 12 midnight on any day a

30 ~~pari mutuel event is conducted live as a part of its~~

31 ~~authorized meet. However, a permitholder who holds a valid~~

1 ~~cardroom license may operate a cardroom between the hours of~~
2 ~~12 noon and 12 midnight on any day that live racing of the~~
3 ~~same class of permit is occurring within 35 miles of its~~
4 ~~facility if no other holder of that same class of permit~~
5 ~~within 35 miles is operating a cardroom at such time and if~~
6 ~~all holders of the same class of permit within the 35 mile~~
7 ~~area have given their permission in writing to the~~
8 ~~permitholder to operate the cardroom during the designated~~
9 ~~period. Application to operate a cardroom under this paragraph~~
10 ~~must be made to the division as part of the annual license~~
11 ~~application.~~

12 (c) A cardroom operator must at all times employ and
13 provide a nonplaying dealer for each table on which authorized
14 card games which traditionally utilize a dealer are conducted
15 at the cardroom. Such dealers may not have any participatory
16 interest in any game other than the dealing of cards and may
17 not have an interest in the outcome of the game. The providing
18 of such dealers by a licensee shall not be construed as
19 constituting the conducting of a banking game by the cardroom
20 operator.

21 (d) A cardroom may award giveaways, jackpots, prizes,
22 or progressives to an individual or group of players who hold
23 certain combinations of cards specified by the cardroom
24 operator.

25 (e) A cardroom may conduct tournaments in which each
26 player contributes an equal amount to a prize pool for the
27 opportunity to win a portion of the aggregate proceeds. The
28 Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering of the Department of Business
29 and Professional Regulation shall adopt rules regulating
30 cardroom tournaments, including rules establishing
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1 maximum-buy-in amounts, number of players, amount of betting
2 units, and payout scales.

3 ~~(f)(d)~~ Each cardroom operator shall conspicuously post
4 upon the premises of the cardroom a notice which contains a
5 copy of the cardroom license; a list of authorized games
6 offered by the cardroom; the wagering limits imposed by the
7 house, if any; any additional house rules regarding operation
8 of the cardroom or the playing of any game; and all costs to
9 players to participate, including any rake by the house. In
10 addition, each cardroom operator shall post at each table a
11 notice of the minimum and maximum bets authorized at such
12 table and the fee for participation in the game conducted.

13 ~~(g)(e)~~ The cardroom facility shall be subject to
14 inspection by the division or any law enforcement agency
15 during the licensee's regular business hours. The inspection
16 will specifically encompass the permitholder internal control
17 procedures approved by the division.

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

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

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SENATE SUMMARY

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Revises provisions relating to the operation of
cardrooms, including provisions regulating hours of
operation, awards that may be given to winners of games,
operation of certain tournaments, and the adoption of
rules.