By the Committee on Regulated Industries; and Senator Geller

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to slot machine revenues; amending s. 551.106, F.S.; revising the tax rate on slot machine revenues at each pari-mutuel facility; requiring certain licensees to pay a pro rata share of the shortfall in taxes paid on slot machine tax revenues under certain conditions; providing a percentage cap on the payment of taxes on slot machine revenues; amending s. 551.116, F.S.; providing hours of operation for sales of alcoholic beverages in slot machine gaming areas; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 551.106, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

551.106 License fee; tax rate; penalties.--

- (2) TAX ON SLOT MACHINE REVENUES. --
- (a) The tax rate on slot machine revenues at each facility shall be  $\underline{35}$   $\underline{50}$  percent.
- machine tax revenues paid in any state fiscal year do not meet or exceed a cumulative amount of \$123 million from the slot machine licensees, the shortfall during the fiscal year shall be paid by each slot machine licensee that conducted slot machine gaming in such year in an amount based upon each licensee's pro rata share of the total taxes paid on slot machine revenues in such year.

  Each licensee shall pay its pro rata share of any shortfall amounts on or before July 31 of the next fiscal year. A licensee

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is not obligated to pay in taxes during a state fiscal year a cumulative amount of more than 50 percent of its slot machine revenues.

- (c) (b) The slot machine revenue tax imposed by this section shall be paid to the division for deposit into the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund for immediate transfer by the Chief Financial Officer for deposit into the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund of the Department of Education. Any interest earnings on the tax revenues shall also be transferred to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund.
- $\underline{\text{(d)}}$  (c)-1. Funds transferred to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund under paragraph (b) shall be used to supplement public education funding statewide.
- 2. If necessary to comply with any covenant established pursuant to s. 1013.68(4), s. 1013.70(1), or s. 1013.737(3), funds transferred to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund under paragraph (c) (b) shall first be available to pay debt service on lottery bonds issued to fund school construction in the event lottery revenues are insufficient for such purpose or to satisfy debt service reserve requirements established in connection with lottery bonds. Moneys available pursuant to this subparagraph are subject to annual appropriation by the Legislature.

Section 2. Section 551.116, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

551.116 Days and hours of operation. -- Slot machine gaming areas may be open daily throughout the year. The slot machine gaming areas, including sales of alcoholic beverages, may be open a cumulative amount of 18 hours per day on Monday through Friday and 24 hours per day on Saturday and Sunday and on those holidays

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specified in s. 110.117(1), and such hours of operation are not subject to other regulation.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.