

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to greyhound racing compensation;
 3 creating s. 550.914, F.S.; providing legislative
 4 findings; requiring the Division of Pari-mutuel
 5 Wagering to select an organization to distribute the
 6 proceeds from the Greyhound Racing Compensation Trust
 7 Fund; providing requirements for the organization;
 8 authorizing rulemaking; directing the division to
 9 calculate certain savings; requiring certain funds to
 10 be deposited into the Greyhound Racing Compensation
 11 Trust Fund; providing a contingent effective date.

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 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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15 Section 1. Section 550.914, Florida Statutes, is created
 16 to read:

17 550.914 Greyhound Racing Compensation.—

18 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.—The Legislature finds that:

19 (a) The state has a long and rich history of greyhound
 20 racing and that the greyhound racing industry has historically
 21 employed thousands of people.

22 (b) In 2018, voters approved an amendment to the State
 23 Constitution that prohibits the racing of, and wagering on,
 24 greyhounds after December 31, 2020.

25 (c) As a result of the prohibition on greyhound racing and

26 wagering, thousands of people have lost or will lose their jobs,
27 and racing greyhound and kennel owners will lose millions of
28 dollars in property value.

29 (d) It is appropriate and necessary to establish a fund to
30 compensate those workers and property owners who have been
31 adversely impacted as a result of the prohibition on greyhound
32 racing and wagering.

33 (e) In order to establish a compensation fund for those
34 impacted by the prohibition on greyhound racing and wagering, it
35 is necessary to redirect certain revenues generated in the pari-
36 mutual wagering industry. This is proper because of the historic
37 links between wagering on greyhound races and other forms of
38 wagering in the state.

39 (2) (a) The division shall select a statewide organization
40 to distribute the proceeds of the Greyhound Racing Compensation
41 Trust Fund to compensate those who have been adversely impacted
42 as a result of the prohibition on greyhound racing and wagering.
43 The division must select a statewide organization that was
44 established to support greyhound racing in the state. The
45 organization must:

46 1. Establish criteria and guidelines for disbursing funds
47 to those adversely impacted by the prohibition on greyhound
48 racing and wagering.

49 2. Provide an annual reporting of how the funds were
50 spent, including administrative costs. the report shall be

51 provided to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
52 Speaker of the House of Representatives by July 1, 2021, and on
53 that date annually thereafter.

54 3. Cooperate with an annual audit by the Joint Legislative
55 Auditing Committee.

56 (b) The division may adopt rules pursuant to s. 120.54 to
57 implement this section.

58 (3) The division shall determine the amount of money it
59 has saved as a result of the decrease in greyhound racing,
60 including, but not limited to, the reduction in the cost of
61 inspections, testing, and overall operating expenses. Such funds
62 must be deposited into the Greyhound Racing Compensation Trust
63 Fund by July 1, 2020.

64 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law,
65 but only if HB ___ or similar legislation takes effect, if such
66 legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an
67 extension thereof and becomes a law.