



601528

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/17/2021	.	
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The Committee on Appropriations (Hutson) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment to Amendment (527596)**

Delete lines 189 - 295

and insert:

there is no objection from any operating permitholder that is conducting live racing or games and that is located within 50 miles of the permitholder requesting the changes in operating dates. In the event of an objection, the division shall approve or disapprove the change in operating dates based upon the impact on operating permitholders located within 50 miles of the



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11 permitholder requesting the change in operating dates. In making  
12 the determination to change racing dates, the division shall  
13 take into consideration the impact of such changes on state  
14 revenues. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and for  
15 the 2021-2022 state fiscal year only, the division may approve  
16 changes in operating dates for a jai alai permitholder, harness  
17 horse racing permitholder, or quarter horse racing permitholder  
18 if the request for such changes is received before July 1, 2021.

19 (4) In the event that a permitholder fails to operate all  
20 performances specified on its license at the date and time  
21 specified, the division shall hold a hearing to determine  
22 whether to fine or suspend the permitholder's license, unless  
23 such failure was the direct result of fire, strike, war, or  
24 other disaster or event beyond the ability of the permitholder  
25 to control. Financial hardship to the permitholder shall not, in  
26 and of itself, constitute just cause for failure to operate all  
27 performances on the dates and at the times specified.

28 (5) In the event that performances licensed to be operated  
29 by a permitholder are vacated, abandoned, or will not be used  
30 for any reason, any permitholder shall be entitled, pursuant to  
31 rules adopted by the division, to apply to conduct performances  
32 on the dates for which the performances have been abandoned. The  
33 division shall issue an amended license for all such replacement  
34 performances which have been requested in compliance with ~~the~~  
35 ~~provisions of~~ this chapter and division rules.

36 ~~(6) Any permit which was converted from a jai alai permit~~  
37 ~~to a greyhound permit may be converted to a jai alai permit at~~  
38 ~~any time if the permitholder never conducted greyhound racing or~~  
39 ~~if the permitholder has not conducted greyhound racing for a~~



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40 ~~period of 12 consecutive months.~~

41 Section 4. Section 550.0235, Florida Statutes, is amended  
42 to read:

43 550.0235 Limitation of civil liability.—No permitholder  
44 licensed to conduct pari-mutuel wagering ~~permittee conducting a~~  
45 ~~racing meet~~ pursuant to the provisions of this chapter; no  
46 division director or employee of the division; and no steward,  
47 judge, or other person appointed to act pursuant to this chapter  
48 shall be held liable to any person, partnership, association,  
49 corporation, or other business entity for any cause whatsoever  
50 arising out of, or from, the performance by such permittee,  
51 director, employee, steward, judge, or other person of her or  
52 his duties and the exercise of her or his discretion with  
53 respect to the implementation and enforcement of the statutes  
54 and rules governing the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering, so long  
55 as she or he acted in good faith. This section shall not limit  
56 liability in any situation in which the negligent maintenance of  
57 the premises or the negligent conduct of a race contributed to  
58 an accident; nor shall it limit any contractual liability.

59 Section 5. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 550.0351,  
60 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

61 550.0351 Charity racing days.—

62 (1) The division shall, upon the request of a permitholder,  
63 authorize each horseracing permitholder, ~~dogracing permitholder,~~  
64 and jai alai permitholder up to five charity or scholarship days  
65 in addition to the regular racing days authorized by law.

66 ~~(7) In addition to the charity days authorized by this~~  
67 ~~section, any dogracing permitholder may allow its facility to be~~  
68 ~~used for conducting "hound dog derbies" or "mutt derbies" on any~~



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69 ~~day during each racing season by any charitable, civic, or~~  
70 ~~nonprofit organization for the purpose of conducting "hound dog~~  
71 ~~derbies" or "mutt derbies" if only dogs other than those usually~~  
72 ~~used in dogracing (greyhounds) are permitted to race and if~~  
73 ~~adults and minors are allowed to participate as dog owners or~~  
74 ~~spectators. During these racing events, betting, gambling, and~~  
75 ~~the sale or use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.~~

76 Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 550.0425, Florida  
77 Statutes, is amended to read:

78 550.0425 Minors attendance at pari-mutuel performances;  
79 restrictions.-

80 ~~(4) Minor children of licensed greyhound trainers, kennel~~  
81 ~~operators, or other licensed persons employed in the kennel~~  
82 ~~compound areas may be granted access to kennel compound areas~~  
83 ~~without being licensed, provided they are in no way employed~~  
84 ~~unless properly licensed, and only when under the direct~~  
85 ~~supervision of one of their parents or legal guardian.~~

86 Section 7. Subsections (2) and (14) of section 550.054,  
87 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

88 550.054 Application for permit to conduct pari-mutuel  
89 wagering.-

90 (2) Upon each application filed and approved, a permit  
91 shall be issued to the applicant setting forth the name of the  
92 permitholder, the location of the pari-mutuel facility, the type  
93 of pari-mutuel activity desired to be conducted, and a statement  
94 showing qualifications of the applicant to conduct pari-mutuel  
95 performances under this chapter; however, a permit is  
96 ineffectual to authorize any pari-mutuel performances until  
97 approved by a majority of the electors participating in a



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98 ratification election in the county in which the applicant  
99 proposes to conduct pari-mutuel wagering activities. In  
100 addition, an application may not be considered, nor may a permit  
101 be issued by the division or be voted upon in any county, to  
102 conduct horseraces, harness horse races, or pari-mutuel wagering  
103 ~~degraces~~ at a location within 100 miles of an existing pari-  
104 mutuel facility, or for jai alai within 50 miles of an existing  
105 pari-mutuel facility; this distance shall be measured on a  
106 straight line from the nearest property line of one pari-mutuel  
107 facility to the nearest property line of the other facility.

108 (14) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a  
109 permit for the operation of a pari-mutuel facility, cardroom, or  
110 slot machine facility may only be held by permitholders with  
111 permits on January 1, 2021, and new permits may not be approved  
112 or issued after January 1, 2021.