



238598

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/02/2025	.	
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The Committee on Regulated Industries (Burgess) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
550.01215, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

550.01215 License application; periods of operation;  
license fees; bond.—

(1) Each permitholder shall annually, during the period  
between January 15 and February 4, file in writing with the



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11 commission its application for an operating license for a pari-  
12 mutuel facility for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering during  
13 the next state fiscal year, including intertrack and simulcast  
14 race wagering. Each application for live performances must  
15 specify the number, dates, and starting times of all live  
16 performances that the permitholder intends to conduct. It must  
17 also specify which performances will be conducted as charity or  
18 scholarship performances.

19 (b)1. A greyhound permitholder may not conduct live racing.  
20 A jai alai permitholder, harness horse racing permitholder, or  
21 quarter horse racing permitholder may elect not to conduct live  
22 racing or games. A thoroughbred permitholder must conduct live  
23 racing pursuant to subparagraph 2. A greyhound permitholder, jai  
24 alai permitholder, harness horse racing permitholder, ~~or~~ quarter  
25 horse racing permitholder, or thoroughbred permitholder pursuant  
26 to subparagraph 2. that does not conduct live racing or games  
27 retains its permit; is a pari-mutuel facility as defined in s.  
28 550.002(23); if such permitholder has been issued a slot machine  
29 license, the facility where such permit is located remains an  
30 eligible facility as defined in s. 551.102(4), continues to be  
31 eligible for a slot machine license pursuant to s. 551.104(3),  
32 and is exempt from ss. 551.104(10) and 551.114(2) ~~ss.~~  
33 ~~551.104(4)(c) and (10) and 551.114(2);~~ is eligible, but not  
34 required, to be a guest track and, if the permitholder is a  
35 harness horse racing permitholder or a thoroughbred permitholder  
36 pursuant to subparagraph 2., to be a host track for purposes of  
37 intertrack wagering and simulcasting pursuant to ss. 550.3551,  
38 550.615, 550.625, and 550.6305; and remains eligible for a  
39 cardroom license.



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40           2. A thoroughbred permitholder who operates a slot machine  
41 facility or cardroom shall conduct a full schedule of live  
42 racing until such permitholder notifies the commission that it  
43 will no longer conduct live racing. Notice under this  
44 subparagraph is not valid unless it is delivered to the  
45 commission on or after July 1, 2028, and contains the date on  
46 which the permitholder will no longer conduct live racing, which  
47 may not be earlier than 4 years after the date of the notice.

48           ~~3.2~~ A permitholder or licensee may not conduct live  
49 greyhound racing or dogracing in connection with any wager for  
50 money or any other thing of value in the state. The commission  
51 may deny, suspend, or revoke any permit or license under this  
52 chapter if a permitholder or licensee conducts live greyhound  
53 racing or dogracing in violation of this subparagraph. In  
54 addition to, or in lieu of, denial, suspension, or revocation of  
55 such permit or license, the commission may impose a civil  
56 penalty of up to \$5,000 against the permitholder or licensee for  
57 a violation of this subparagraph. All penalties imposed and  
58 collected must be deposited with the Chief Financial Officer to  
59 the credit of the General Revenue Fund.

60           Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section  
61 550.0951, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

62           550.0951 Payment of daily license fee and taxes;  
63 penalties.—

64           (3) TAX ON HANDLE.—Each permitholder shall pay a tax on  
65 contributions to pari-mutuel pools, the aggregate of which is  
66 hereinafter referred to as "handle," on races or games conducted  
67 by the permitholder. The tax is imposed daily and is based on  
68 the total contributions to all pari-mutuel pools conducted



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69 during the daily performance. If a permitholder conducts more  
70 than one performance daily, the tax is imposed on each  
71 performance separately.

72 (c)1. The tax on handle for intertrack wagering is 2.0  
73 percent of the handle if the host track is a horse track, 3.3  
74 percent if the host track is a harness track, 5.5 percent if the  
75 host track is a dog track, and 7.1 percent if the host track is  
76 a jai alai fronton. The tax on handle for intertrack wagering is  
77 0.5 percent if the host track and the guest track are  
78 thoroughbred permitholders or if the guest track is located  
79 outside the market area of the host track and within the market  
80 area of a thoroughbred permitholder that conducted a full  
81 schedule of live racing the preceding fiscal year ~~currently~~  
82 ~~conducting a live race meet~~. The tax on handle for intertrack  
83 wagering on rebroadcasts of simulcast thoroughbred horseraces is  
84 2.4 percent of the handle and 1.5 percent of the handle for  
85 intertrack wagering on rebroadcasts of simulcast harness  
86 horseraces. The tax shall be deposited into the Pari-mutuel  
87 Wagering Trust Fund.

88 2. The tax on handle for intertrack wagers accepted by any  
89 dog track located in an area of the state in which there are  
90 only three permitholders, all of which are greyhound  
91 permitholders, located in three contiguous counties, from any  
92 greyhound permitholder also located within such area or any dog  
93 track or jai alai fronton located as specified in s. 550.615(6)  
94 or (9), on races or games received from the same class of  
95 permitholder located within the same market area is 3.9 percent  
96 if the host facility is a greyhound permitholder and, if the  
97 host facility is a jai alai permitholder, the rate shall be 6.1



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98 percent except that it shall be 2.3 percent on handle at such  
99 time as the total tax on intertrack handle paid to the  
100 commission by the permitholder during the current state fiscal  
101 year exceeds the total tax on intertrack handle paid to the  
102 commission by the permitholder during the 1992-1993 state fiscal  
103 year.

104 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (10) of section  
105 551.104, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106 551.104 License to conduct slot machine gaming.—

107 (10) (a) 1. Until a thoroughbred permitholder is no longer  
108 conducting live racing pursuant to s. 550.01215(1) (b) 2., a ~~no~~  
109 slot machine license or renewal thereof may not ~~shall~~ be issued  
110 to an applicant holding a permit under chapter 550 to conduct  
111 pari-mutuel wagering meets of thoroughbred racing unless the  
112 applicant has on file with the commission a binding written  
113 agreement between the applicant and the Florida Horsemen's  
114 Benevolent and Protective Association, Inc., governing the  
115 payment of purses on live thoroughbred races conducted at the  
116 licensee's pari-mutuel facility. In addition, a ~~no~~ slot machine  
117 license or renewal thereof may not ~~shall~~ be issued to such an  
118 applicant unless the applicant has on file with the commission a  
119 binding written agreement between the applicant and the Florida  
120 Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, Inc., governing the payment  
121 of breeders', stallion, and special racing awards on live  
122 thoroughbred races conducted at the licensee's pari-mutuel  
123 facility. The agreement governing purses and the agreement  
124 governing awards may direct the payment of such purses and  
125 awards from revenues generated by any wagering or gaming the  
126 applicant is authorized to conduct under ~~Florida~~ law. All purses



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127 and awards are ~~shall be~~ subject to the terms of chapter 550. All  
128 sums for breeders', stallion, and special racing awards are  
129 ~~shall be~~ remitted monthly to the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders'  
130 Association, Inc., for the payment of awards subject to the  
131 administrative fee authorized in s. 550.2625(3).

132 2. A ~~No~~ slot machine license or renewal thereof may not  
133 ~~shall~~ be issued to an applicant holding a permit under chapter  
134 550 to conduct pari-mutuel wagering meets of quarter horse  
135 racing unless the applicant has on file with the commission a  
136 binding written agreement between the applicant and the Florida  
137 Quarter Horse Racing Association or the association representing  
138 a majority of the horse owners and trainers at the applicant's  
139 eligible facility, governing the payment of purses on live  
140 quarter horse races conducted at the licensee's pari-mutuel  
141 facility. The agreement governing purses may direct the payment  
142 of such purses from revenues generated by any wagering or gaming  
143 the applicant is authorized to conduct under ~~Florida~~ law. All  
144 purses are ~~shall be~~ subject to the terms of chapter 550.

145 Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) and paragraph  
146 (d) of subsection (13) of section 849.086, Florida Statutes, are  
147 amended to read:

148 849.086 Cardrooms authorized.—

149 (5) LICENSE REQUIRED; APPLICATION; FEES.—No person may  
150 operate a cardroom in this state unless such person holds a  
151 valid cardroom license issued pursuant to this section.

152 (c) Notwithstanding any other ~~provision of~~ law, a pari-  
153 mutuel permitholder, other than a permitholder issued a permit  
154 pursuant to s. 550.3345 or a purchaser, transferee, or assignee  
155 holding a valid permit for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering



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156 approved pursuant to s. 550.054(15) (a), may not be issued a  
157 license for the operation of a cardroom if the permitholder did  
158 not hold an operating license for the conduct of pari-mutuel  
159 wagering for fiscal year 2020-2021. In order for an initial  
160 cardroom license to be issued to a thoroughbred permitholder  
161 issued a permit pursuant to s. 550.3345, the applicant must have  
162 requested, as part of its pari-mutuel annual license  
163 application, to conduct at least a full schedule of live racing.  
164 ~~In order for a cardroom license to be renewed by a thoroughbred~~  
165 ~~permitholder, the applicant must have requested, as part of its~~  
166 ~~pari-mutuel annual license application, to conduct at least 90~~  
167 ~~percent of the total number of live performances conducted by~~  
168 ~~such permitholder during either the state fiscal year in which~~  
169 ~~its initial cardroom license was issued or the state fiscal year~~  
170 ~~immediately prior thereto if the permitholder ran at least a~~  
171 ~~full schedule of live racing or games in the prior year.~~

172 (13) TAXES AND OTHER PAYMENTS.—

173 (d)1. Each jai alai permitholder that conducts live  
174 performances and operates a cardroom facility shall use at least  
175 4 percent of such permitholder's cardroom monthly gross receipts  
176 to supplement jai alai prize money during the permitholder's  
177 next ensuing pari-mutuel meet.

178 2. Until a thoroughbred permitholder is no longer  
179 conducting live racing pursuant to s. 550.01215(1) (b)2., each  
180 thoroughbred permitholder ~~or harness horse racing permitholder~~  
181 that conducts live performances and operates a cardroom facility  
182 shall use at least 50 percent of such permitholder's cardroom  
183 monthly net proceeds as follows: 47 percent to supplement purses  
184 and 3 percent to supplement breeders' awards during the



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185 permitholder's next ensuing racing meet.

186       3. A ~~No~~ cardroom license or renewal thereof may not ~~shall~~  
187 be issued to an applicant holding a permit under chapter 550 to  
188 conduct pari-mutuel wagering meets of quarter horse racing and  
189 conducting live performances unless the applicant has on file  
190 with the commission a binding written agreement between the  
191 applicant and the Florida Quarter Horse Racing Association or  
192 the association representing a majority of the horse owners and  
193 trainers at the applicant's eligible facility, governing the  
194 payment of purses on live quarter horse races conducted at the  
195 licensee's pari-mutuel facility. The agreement governing purses  
196 may direct the payment of such purses from revenues generated by  
197 any wagering or gaming the applicant is authorized to conduct  
198 under ~~Florida~~ law. All purses are ~~shall be~~ subject to the terms  
199 of chapter 550.

200       Section 5. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
201 made by this act to section 550.01215, Florida Statutes, in a  
202 reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 550.3551, Florida  
203 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

204       550.3551 Transmission of racing and jai alai information;  
205 commingling of pari-mutuel pools.—

206       (3) Any horse track licensed under this chapter may receive  
207 broadcasts of horseraces conducted at other horse racetracks  
208 located outside this state at the racetrack enclosure of the  
209 licensee, if the horse track conducted a full schedule of live  
210 racing during the preceding state fiscal year, or if the horse  
211 track does not conduct live racing as authorized under s.  
212 550.01215.

213       (a) All broadcasts of horseraces received from locations





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214 outside this state must comply with the provisions of the  
215 Interstate Horseracing Act of 1978, 92 Stat. 1811, 15 U.S.C. ss.  
216 3001 et seq.

217 (b) Wagers accepted at the horse track in this state may  
218 be, but are not required to be, included in the pari-mutuel  
219 pools of the out-of-state horse track that broadcasts the race.  
220 Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of this chapter, if the  
221 horse track in this state elects to include wagers accepted on  
222 such races in the pari-mutuel pools of the out-of-state horse  
223 track that broadcasts the race, from the amount wagered by  
224 patrons at the horse track in this state and included in the  
225 pari-mutuel pools of the out-of-state horse track, the horse  
226 track in this state shall deduct as the takeout from the amount  
227 wagered by patrons at the horse track in this state and included  
228 in the pari-mutuel pools of the out-of-state horse track a  
229 percentage equal to the percentage deducted from the amount  
230 wagered at the out-of-state racetrack as is authorized by the  
231 laws of the jurisdiction exercising regulatory authority over  
232 the out-of-state horse track.

233 (c) All forms of pari-mutuel wagering are allowed on races  
234 broadcast under this section, and all money wagered by patrons  
235 on such races shall be computed as part of the total amount of  
236 money wagered at each racing performance for purposes of  
237 taxation under ss. 550.0951, 550.09512, and 550.09515. Section  
238 550.2625(2)(a), (b), and (c) does not apply to any money wagered  
239 on races broadcast under this section. Similarly, the takeout  
240 shall be increased by breaks and uncashed tickets for wagers on  
241 races broadcast under this section, notwithstanding any contrary  
242 provision of this chapter.



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243           Section 6. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
244 made by this act to section 550.01215, Florida Statutes, in a  
245 reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 550.615, Florida  
246 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

247           550.615 Intertrack wagering.—

248           (2) Except as provided in subsection (1), a pari-mutuel  
249 permitholder that has met the applicable requirement for that  
250 permitholder to conduct live racing or games under s.  
251 550.01215(1)(b), if any, for fiscal year 2020-2021 is qualified  
252 to, at any time, receive broadcasts of any class of pari-mutuel  
253 race or game and accept wagers on such races or games conducted  
254 by any class of permitholders licensed under this chapter.

255           Section 7. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
256 made by this act to section 550.0951, Florida Statutes, in a  
257 reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 550.09515, Florida  
258 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

259           550.09515 Thoroughbred horse taxes; abandoned interest in a  
260 permit for nonpayment of taxes.—

261           (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 550.0951(3)(c),  
262 the tax on handle for intertrack wagering on rebroadcasts of  
263 simulcast horseraces is 2.4 percent of the handle; provided  
264 however, that if the guest track is a thoroughbred track located  
265 more than 35 miles from the host track, the host track shall pay  
266 a tax of .5 percent of the handle, and additionally the host  
267 track shall pay to the guest track 1.9 percent of the handle to  
268 be used by the guest track solely for purses. The tax shall be  
269 deposited into the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund.

270           Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
271 made by this act to section 550.0951, Florida Statutes, in a



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272 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
273 550.09511, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

274 550.09511 Jai alai taxes; abandoned interest in a permit  
275 for nonpayment of taxes.—

276 (3) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2) and  
277 s. 550.0951(3) (c)1., any jai alai permitholder which is  
278 restricted under Florida law from operating live performances on  
279 a year-round basis is entitled to conduct wagering on live  
280 performances at a tax rate of 3.85 percent of live handle. Such  
281 permitholder is also entitled to conduct intertrack wagering as  
282 a host permitholder on live jai alai games at its fronton at a  
283 tax rate of 3.3 percent of handle at such time as the total tax  
284 on intertrack handle paid to the commission by the permitholder  
285 during the current state fiscal year exceeds the total tax on  
286 intertrack handle paid to the former Division of Pari-mutuel  
287 Wagering by the permitholder during the 1992-1993 state fiscal  
288 year.

289 Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
290 made by this act to section 550.0951, Florida Statutes, in a  
291 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section  
292 550.6305, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

293 550.6305 Intertrack wagering; guest track payments;  
294 accounting rules.—

295 (9) A host track that has contracted with an out-of-state  
296 horse track to broadcast live races conducted at such out-of-  
297 state horse track pursuant to s. 550.3551(5) may broadcast such  
298 out-of-state races to any guest track and accept wagers thereon  
299 in the same manner as is provided in s. 550.3551.

300 (a) For purposes of this section, "net proceeds" means the



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301 amount of takeout remaining after the payment of state taxes,  
302 purses required pursuant to s. 550.0951(3)(c)1., the cost to the  
303 permitholder required to be paid to the out-of-state horse  
304 track, and breeders' awards paid to the Florida Thoroughbred  
305 Breeders' Association and the Florida Standardbred Breeders and  
306 Owners Association, to be used as set forth in s. 550.625(2)(a)  
307 and (b).

308 Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

309

310 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

311 And the title is amended as follows:

312 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
313 and insert:

314 A bill to be entitled  
315 An act relating to thoroughbred permitholders;  
316 amending s. 550.01215, F.S.; requiring certain  
317 thoroughbred permitholders to conduct a full schedule  
318 of live racing until such permitholders provide notice  
319 to the Florida Gaming Control Commission with certain  
320 information; providing that such notice is not valid  
321 unless it is delivered to the commission on or after a  
322 specified date; conforming provisions to changes made  
323 by the act; amending s. 550.0951, F.S.; revising the  
324 criteria for certain thoroughbred permitholders to pay  
325 the tax on handle for intertrack wagering; amending s.  
326 551.104, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made  
327 by the act; amending s. 849.086, F.S.; deleting  
328 certain criteria a thoroughbred permitholder must meet  
329 as part of its pari-mutuel annual license application



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330 in order to have its cardroom license renewed;  
331 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
332 reenacting ss. 550.3551(3) and 550.615(2), F.S.,  
333 relating to the transmission of racing and jai alai  
334 information and commingling of pari-mutuel pools and  
335 intertrack wagering, respectively, to incorporate the  
336 amendment made to s. 550.01215, F.S., in references  
337 thereto; reenacting ss. 550.09515(5), 550.09511(3)(a),  
338 and 550.6305(9)(a), F.S., relating to thoroughbred  
339 horse taxes and abandoned interest in a permit for  
340 nonpayment of taxes; jai alai taxes and abandoned  
341 interest in a permit for nonpayment of taxes; and  
342 intertrack wagering, guest track payments, and  
343 accounting rules, respectively, to incorporate the  
344 amendment made to s. 550.0951, F.S., in references  
345 thereto; providing an effective date.