

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to pari-mutuel wagering; amending s.
 3 550.01215, F.S.; prohibiting greyhound racing
 4 permitholders from conducting live greyhound racing or
 5 dogracing; requiring a thoroughbred permitholder to
 6 conduct live thoroughbred racing; authorizing
 7 specified permitholders to elect to conduct live
 8 harness horse racing; providing construction;
 9 authorizing the Florida Gaming Control Commission to
 10 approve certain changes to operating dates; providing
 11 an 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. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection
 16 (3) of section 550.01215, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

17 550.01215 License application; periods of operation;
 18 license fees; bond.—

19 (1) Each permitholder shall annually, during the period
 20 between December 15 and January 4, file in writing with the
 21 commission its application for an operating license for a pari-
 22 mutuel facility for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering during
 23 the next state fiscal year, including intertrack and simulcast
 24 race wagering. Each application for live performances must
 25 specify the number, dates, and starting times of all live

26 | performances that the permitholder intends to conduct. It must
27 | also specify which performances will be conducted as charity or
28 | scholarship performances.

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

48 | 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 | 3. A greyhound permitholder, jai alai permitholder,
61 | thoroughbred permitholder, or quarter horse racing permitholder
62 | that held such permit during the 2020-2021 operating year may
63 | elect to conduct live harness horse racing. Authorization to
64 | conduct harness horse racing pursuant to this chapter may only
65 | be granted to a permitholder that held an operating license to
66 | conduct pari-mutuel wagering for fiscal year 2020-2021 or that
67 | holds a permit issued pursuant to s. 550.3345. However, such
68 | election to conduct harness horse racing does not entitle such
69 | permitholder to receive an additional, or other type of, permit.
70 | Live harness horse racing may only be conducted pursuant to this
71 | chapter if such permitholder qualifies to retain the greyhound
72 | permit, jai alai permit, thoroughbred permit, or quarter horse
73 | racing permit held during the 2020-2021 operating year.
74 | Authorization granted to conduct harness horse racing to a
75 | permitholder other than a harness horse racing permitholder is

76 not considered the granting or issuance of a permit or license,
77 or a conversion of such permit, but is merely considered an
78 additional benefit of holding a greyhound permit, jai alai
79 permit, thoroughbred permit, or quarter horse racing permit
80 issued pursuant to s. 550.3345.

81 (3) The commission shall issue each license no later than
82 March 15. Each permitholder shall operate all performances at
83 the date and time specified on its license. The commission shall
84 have the authority to approve minor changes in racing dates
85 after a license has been issued. The commission may approve
86 changes in racing dates after a license has been issued when
87 there is no objection from any operating permitholder that is
88 conducting live racing or games and that is located within 50
89 miles of the permitholder requesting the changes in operating
90 dates. In the event of an objection, the commission shall
91 approve or disapprove the change in operating dates based upon
92 the impact on operating permitholders located within 50 miles of
93 the permitholder requesting the change in operating dates. In
94 making the determination to change racing dates, the commission
95 shall take into consideration the impact of such changes on
96 state revenues. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and
97 for fiscal year 2023-2024 only, the commission may approve
98 changes to operating dates to allow a greyhound racing
99 permitholder, jai alai permitholder, harness horse racing
100 permitholder, quarter horse racing permitholder, or thoroughbred

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101 | racing permitholder to conduct live harness horse racing if the
102 | request for such changes is received before October 1, 2023.

103 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.