

Committee on Regulated Industries

SB 7044 — Changes in Ownership or Interest in Pari-mutuel Permits

by Regulated Industries Committee

The bill revises provisions relating to pari-mutuel wagering permits, cardroom licenses, and annual operating licenses to address an inadvertent oversight respecting the sale, transfer, or assignment of permits and issuance of cardroom licenses.

The bill revises s. 550.054(15), F.S., relating to permits for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering, to clarify that a pari-mutuel permit may be held by a permitholder who held an operating license to conduct pari-mutuel wagering in Fiscal Year 2020-2021 or a purchaser, transferee, or assignee of a valid pari-mutuel permit, if the purchase, transfer, or assignment is approved by the Florida Gaming Control Commission before such purchase, transfer, or assignment. However, current law prohibiting the commission from approving or issuing any additional pari-mutuel wagering permits remains in effect.

Similarly, the bill revises s. 849.086(5), F.S., relating to cardrooms authorized to operate in the state, to clarify that a purchaser, transferee, or assignee of a valid pari-mutuel wagering permit may be issued a license to operate an authorized cardroom.

The bill conforms the annual operating license requirements in current law to the pari-mutuel wagering permit provisions that are revised in the bill, to authorize the issuance of an annual operating license to an eligible purchaser, transferee, or assignee of a valid pari-mutuel wagering permit.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 109-5