

**FOR CONSIDERATION By** the Committee on Regulated Industries

580-02550-23

20237044pb

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to changes in ownership of or interest  
3 in pari-mutuel permits; amending s. 550.054, F.S.;  
4 revising entities authorized to hold pari-mutuel  
5 wagering permits and associated licenses; amending s.  
6 849.086, F.S.; specifying such entities may hold a  
7 license for the operation of a cardroom; providing an  
8 effective date.

9  
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
12 Section 1. Subsection (15) of section 550.054, Florida  
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 550.054 Application for permit to conduct pari-mutuel  
15 wagering.—

16 (15) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a  
17 permit for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering and associated  
18 cardroom or slot machine licenses may only be held by a  
19 permitholder who held an operating license for the conduct of  
20 pari-mutuel wagering for fiscal year 2020-2021 or who holds a  
21 permit issued pursuant to s. 550.3345 or by a purchaser,  
22 transferee, or assignee of a valid permit for the conduct of  
23 pari-mutuel wagering if approved by the commission before such  
24 purchase, transfer, or assignment and provided that the  
25 commission does not approve or issue an additional permit for  
26 the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering;

27 (b) All permits issued under this chapter held by  
28 permitholders on January 1, 2021, are deemed valid for the sole  
29 and exclusive purpose of satisfying all conditions for the valid

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30 issuance of the permits, if such permitholder held an operating  
31 license for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering for fiscal year  
32 2020-2021 or if such permitholder held a permit issued pursuant  
33 to s. 550.3345;

34 (c) Additional permits for the conduct of pari-mutuel  
35 wagering may not be approved or issued by the commission or  
36 former Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering after January 1, 2021;  
37 and

38 (d) A permit to conduct pari-mutuel wagering may not be  
39 converted to another class of permit.

40 Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) of section  
41 849.086, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

42 849.086 Cardrooms authorized.—

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

46 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a pari-  
47 mutuel permitholder, other than a permitholder issued a permit  
48 pursuant to s. 550.3345 or a purchaser, transferee, or assignee  
49 holding a valid permit for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering  
50 approved pursuant to s. 550.054(15)(a), may not be issued a  
51 license for the operation of a cardroom if the permitholder did  
52 not hold an operating license for the conduct of pari-mutuel  
53 wagering for fiscal year 2020-2021. In order for an initial  
54 cardroom license to be issued to a thoroughbred permitholder  
55 issued a permit pursuant to s. 550.3345, the applicant must have  
56 requested, as part of its pari-mutuel annual license  
57 application, to conduct at least a full schedule of live racing.  
58 In order for a cardroom license to be renewed by a thoroughbred

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59 permitholder, the applicant must have requested, as part of its  
60 pari-mutuel annual license application, to conduct at least 90  
61 percent of the total number of live performances conducted by  
62 such permitholder during either the state fiscal year in which  
63 its initial cardroom license was issued or the state fiscal year  
64 immediately prior thereto if the permitholder ran at least a  
65 full schedule of live racing or games in the prior year.

66 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.