

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 1670

SPONSOR: Regulated Industries Committee and Senator Campbell

SUBJECT: The Department of Business and Professional Regulation

DATE: March 11, 2002 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Vaccaro	Caldwell	RI	Favorable/CS
2.			GO	
3.			AGG	
4.			AP	
5.			RC	
6.				

I. Summary:

The committee substitute for Senate Bill 1670 provides that any quarter horse permit holder operating under a valid permit issued before January 1, 2002, which has not relocated after December 31, 2001, to a county other than the county that appears on the original permit application is authorized to substitute other races of other breeds of horses.

II. Present Situation:

The regulation of pari-mutuel wagering is governed by ch. 550, F.S. Regulation is administered by the Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering (division) within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. Pari-mutuel activities include: thoroughbred racing, harness racing, quarter horse racing, greyhound racing, and jai alai. Persons who wish to conduct pari-mutuel wagering in Florida are required to file a permit application with the division as provided for in s. 550.054, F.S. Each permit issued by the division specifies the name of the permitholder, the location of the pari-mutuel facility, the type of pari-mutuel activity desired to be conducted, and a statement of the applicant's qualifications. A permit is ineffectual, however, until approved by a majority of the electors participating in a ratification election in the county in which the applicant proposes to conduct pari-mutuel wagering activities.

Section 550.334, F.S., addresses substitution of races by quarter horse permitholders. Section 550.334(7)(a), F.S., authorizes quarter horse racing permitholders to substitute other races of other breeds of horses which are registered with the American Paint Horse Association, Appaloosa Horse Club, Arabian Horse Registry of America, Jockey Club, Palomino Horse Breeders of America, or United States Trotting Association. There is currently no quarter horse pari-mutuel racing being conducted in Florida.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The committee substitute amends paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of s. 550.334, F.S., to provide that any quarter horse permit holder operating under a valid permit issued before January 1, 2002, which has not relocated after December 31, 2001, to a county other than the county that appears on the original permit application is authorized to substitute other races of other breeds of horses. The act takes effect upon becoming a law.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Any applicant for a quarter horse racing permit, or any quarter horse racing permitholder who relocates to a different county after December 31, 2001, will be unable to race other races of other breeds of horses. However, the division reports that there is currently only one quarter horse racing permitholder in Florida, and no races are being conducted. That permitholder will only be affected if it decides to relocate its facility to a county other than the one appearing on its application.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
