74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 439 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Rep. Girod

House Committee on Government Accountability and Information Technology

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

**Action:** Do Pass **Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Beyer, Edwards C., Girod, Riley

Nays: 0

Exc.: Thatcher

**Prepared By:** Patrick Brennan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/10

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Prohibits animals from participating in a race if they have been administered a drug prohibited by the Oregon Racing Commission within 24 hours of post time.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Changes in horse racing practices
- Effect of lottery and casino gambling on horse racing in Oregon
- Prohibited substance list set by Oregon Racing Commission
- Drugs that would be exempt

## **EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Racing Commission was established in state law in 1933 as part of the Pari-Mutuel Wagering Act. Its mission is to regulate all aspects of the pari-mutuel industry in Oregon for the protection and benefit of the citizenry, the licensees, the participants and the state.

ORS 462.415 prohibits animals from participating in a race if, after entry in the race, it has been administered a drug, it possesses any drug detected in its system, its performance was affected, or it fails to satisfy conditions of the race. Many races have different entry deadlines that add to inconsistency in enforcement. Senate Bill 439 adopts a set time period of 24 hours prior to post-time as the period prior to the race that designated drugs are not to be administered to racehorses. Twenty-four hours prior to post time is an industry standard and is currently used in other states, including California and Washington.