

SB 78 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

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Sub-Referral To: House Committee On Rules

Meeting Dates: 4/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) to adopt rules to issue licenses to conduct off-race course simulcast mutuel wagering. Grants nonrace meet simulcast licensee same permissions afforded to meet licensee. Allows up to ten video lottery terminals to be placed on premises of nonrace meet simulcast licensee. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

No revenue or fiscal impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

“Pari-mutuel” wagers are bets made on the outcome of a race. The bets go into a pool managed by an operator, who has no stake in the outcome of the race. The operator deducts a set percentage from the pool and distributes the remainder to the winning patrons. The Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) regulates all aspects of the pari-mutuel industry in Oregon. Current statute allows race meet license holders to host client wager accounts, conduct handicapping contests, conduct off-race course mutuel wagering, and host instant racing machines and video lottery game terminals. A race meet licensee may have up to ten video lottery terminals on the premises where all other establishments are limited to six terminals.

Senate Bill 78 requires the ORC to adopt standards for a new license, the nonrace meet simulcast license. Nonrace meet simulcast licensees are authorized to conduct off-race course simulcast wagering as well as the permissions afforded to race meet licensees.

Senate vote: 27-1