

HB 4051 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Gambling Regulation

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Meeting Dates: 2/6, 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure prohibits betting, and the facilitation of betting, on dog races in Oregon, regardless of whether the race takes place in Oregon. It allows the Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) to impose civil penalties for any violations, with the dollar amount set in rule, and sends the penalties to the General Fund. It requires veterinarians to report to the ORC any signs of abuse, injury, or inadequate health of horses believed to be involved in racing, and it declares an emergency and is effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 The amendment also prohibits betting on dog races in Oregon and prohibits the facilitation of dog race betting by Multi-Jurisdictional Simulcasting and Interactive Wagering Totalizator Hubs for residents from jurisdictions in which wagering on dog racing is unlawful and sends penalties for violations to the Oregon Racing Commission Account. It removes the mandatory reporting requirement for veterinarians.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Racing Commission licenses, regulates, and supervises all race meets in Oregon, and has sole discretion whether a meet is licensed. It has the authority to cooperate with racing commissions or boards in other jurisdictions, and other racing organizations, to enforce laws regulating racing. It is comprised of five members that are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

A Multi-Jurisdictional Simulcasting and Interactive Wagering Totalizator Hub (Hub) is a business that conducts pari-mutuel wagering on the races that it simulcasts, and other races that it carries in its wagering menu, through a qualified subscriber-based service. Pari-mutuel wagering is a game in which individuals wager on the outcome of a live race. Instead of wagering against a sportsbook, individuals wager against other individuals in a pool. Therefore, the wagers are pooled, and the winnings are shared equally amongst the individuals who placed the winning bets, after the house fees are deducted.

[Senate Bill 1504 \(2022\)](#) prohibited the granting or licensing of greyhound race meets on and after July 1, 2022. It also allowed a Hub to establish an account for wagering on greyhound racing for an individual, unless doing so was unlawful in the jurisdiction of the individual's principal residence. This effectively prohibited wagering on greyhound racing, regardless of the state or country in which the wagering occurs, if the individual resides in Oregon.

[House Bill 3514 A \(2023\)](#) proposed to prohibit wagering on greyhound racing and to prohibit Hubs from accepting or facilitating any wagers on any greyhound races after July 1, 2029. It would have allowed Hubs to accept and facilitate mutuel wagers on greyhound races from persons outside the state and would have prohibited them from accepting or facilitating mutuel wagers on greyhound races held at courses in Mexico.