

Senate Bill 1524

Sponsored by Senator HAYDEN (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act uses money from the lottery to support horse racing. (Flesch Readability Score: 64.9).

Creates a continuing allocation of lottery revenues to support specified horse racing events and facilities. Becomes operative July 1, 2027.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to horse racing; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 565.446 and 565.447.

2 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

3 **SECTION 1.** ORS 565.447 is amended to read:

4 565.447. (1) Subject only to the availability of unobligated net lottery proceeds, there is allocated
5 from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund to:

6 (a) The County Fair Account created under ORS 565.445 an amount equal to one percent of the
7 net proceeds from the Oregon State Lottery, but not to exceed \$1.53 million annually, adjusted
8 biennially pursuant to an inflation factor determined by dividing the Consumer Price Index for All
9 Urban Consumers, West Region (All Items), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the
10 United States Department of Labor, for January 1 immediately preceding commencement of the
11 biennium, by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers of the Portland, Oregon, Standard
12 Metropolitan Statistical Area, as compiled by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of
13 Labor Statistics, for January 1, 2001[.]; **and**

14 (b) **The Horse Racing Account established under section 3 of this 2026 Act an amount
15 equal to three-tenths of one percent of the net proceeds from the Oregon State Lottery.**

16 (2) The allocation of moneys from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund un-
17 der this section is subject to the requirements in [*section 4,*] Article XV, **section 4**, of the Oregon
18 Constitution, for deposit of specified amounts of the net proceeds from the Oregon State Lottery into
19 the Education Stability Fund and into the Parks and Natural Resources Fund and shall be made only
20 after satisfaction or payment of:

21 (a) Amounts allocated to Westside lottery bonds issued under ORS 391.140 or to the reserves
22 or any refunding related to the Westside lottery bonds in accordance with the priority for allocation
23 and disbursement established by ORS 391.130;

24 (b) All liens, pledges or other obligations relating to lottery bonds or refunding lottery bonds
25 due or payable during the year for which an allocation is to be made; and

26 (c) Amounts required by any other pledges of, or liens on, net proceeds from the Oregon State
27 Lottery.
28

29 **SECTION 2.** ORS 565.446 is amended to read:

30 565.446. The Legislative Assembly finds and declares that financial support of county fairs **and**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **horse racing events** will result in economic development for areas where fairgrounds are located
2 by promoting, expanding or preventing the decline of businesses and that the use of the net proceeds
3 from the operation of the Oregon State Lottery to fund county fairs **and horse racing events** is
4 an appropriate use of state lottery funds under [section 4,] Article XV, **section 4**, of the Oregon
5 Constitution, and ORS 461.540.

6 **SECTION 3. (1) The Horse Racing Account is established in the State Treasury, separate**
7 **and distinct from the General Fund. The account consists of moneys allocated under ORS**
8 **565.447 and all other moneys deposited in or transferred to the account by the Legislative**
9 **Assembly or otherwise. Interest earned by the account shall be credited to the account. The**
10 **moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Racing Commission to**
11 **be used as provided in subsection (2) of this section.**

12 **(2) The commission shall use the moneys in the account to support horse racing events**
13 **operated by licensees described in ORS 462.057 (2), and horse racing events held on county**
14 **fairgrounds in Crook County, Josephine County, Tillamook County and Union County, by**
15 **carrying out any of the following activities:**

16 **(a) Maintaining horse racing tracks at the fairgrounds;**

17 **(b) Supporting purse money and jockey incentives to attract better horse and human**
18 **athletes;**

19 **(c) Funding veterinarians to treat horses at the horse racing tracks and medical profes-**
20 **sionals to treat jockeys at the horse racing tracks;**

21 **(d) Purchasing horse racing safety equipment for use at the horse racing events;**

22 **(e) Operating the horse racing events, including paying for the costs of security and in-**
23 **surance; and**

24 **(f) Building or maintaining horse racing infrastructure that enhances or protects the**
25 **safety or well-being of racehorses.**

26 **SECTION 4. ORS 565.446 and 565.447 and section 3 of this 2026 Act are added to and made**
27 **a part of ORS chapter 565.**

28 **SECTION 5. The amendments to ORS 565.446 and 565.447 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2026**
29 **Act become operative July 1, 2027.**

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