

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1178

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO PARI-MUTUEL BETTING; AMENDING SECTION 54-2512, IDAHO CODE, TO
2 PROVIDE FOR THE RETENTION OF A PERCENTAGE OF ADVANCE DEPOSIT WAGERING
3 MONEYS BY THE IDAHO STATE RACING COMMISSION FOR RACING ADMINISTRATION;
4 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.
5

6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 SECTION 1. That Section 54-2512, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
8 amended to read as follows:

9 54-2512. PARI-MUTUEL BETTING -- OTHER BETTING ILLEGAL. (1) Any li-
10 censee conducting a race meet under this chapter may provide a place or
11 places in the race meet grounds or enclosure at which such licensee may con-
12 duct and supervise the use of the pari-mutuel system by patrons on the result
13 of the races conducted by such licensee at such race meet and, upon written
14 application by a licensee and approval by the commission, on the result of
15 simulcast and/or televised races. The commission shall issue no more than
16 one (1) license to simulcast per live race meet licensee and there shall be no
17 more simulcasting sites in the state than there are licensed live race meet
18 sites.

19 (2) Licenses authorizing simulcast and/or televised races will be reg-
20 ulated by the commission, in addition to its other responsibilities, for the
21 purpose of enhancing, promoting, and protecting the live race industry in
22 the state of Idaho. No license authorizing simulcasting and/or televised
23 races shall be issued to or renewed for persons that are not also licensed to
24 conduct live race meets in the state of Idaho. Persons applying for a simul-
25 cast and/or televised race license shall have an agreement reached volun-
26 tarily or pursuant to binding arbitration in conformance with chapter 9, ti-
27 tle 7, Idaho Code, with a horsemen's group as the term "horsemen's group" is
28 defined in section 54-2502, Idaho Code. The agreement shall address, but
29 not be limited to, number of live race days and percentage of the live race
30 and simulcast handle that is dedicated to the live horse race purse struc-
31 ture. In addition, the agreement shall provide that all simulcast purse mon-
32 eys that are accrued as required by the horsemen's agreement be held in the
33 simulcast purse moneys fund created pursuant to the provisions of section
34 54-2508, Idaho Code. Race days agreed upon shall be submitted to the Idaho
35 racing commission for its approval.

36 (3) Upon written application by a live horse race licensee and approval
37 by the Idaho state racing commission, a license may be issued to conduct
38 and supervise the use of the pari-mutuel system by patrons on the result of
39 simulcast and/or televised races in a facility not located on the grounds of
40 a live horse race meet facility, but within the county that the live horse
41 race facility is located, subject to the following restrictions:

1 (a) In addition to the distribution and payment of the handle as de-
2 scribed in section 54-2513, Idaho Code, a licensee operating under a li-
3 cense described in this subsection shall pay to the Idaho state racing
4 commission for deposit in the live horse race purse distribution fund,
5 a minimum of one percent (1%) of the gross daily receipts from simul-
6 cast and/or televised races. The Idaho state racing commission shall
7 distribute the moneys from the live horse race purse distribution fund
8 to those live horse race licensees that ran less than fifteen (15) live
9 race days during the preceding calendar year. The distribution shall be
10 made by dividing the total number of live race days of all of the qual-
11 ified live horse racetracks combined into the moneys collected by the
12 fund in any one (1) calendar year and by multiplying the result by the
13 number of days run by each of the respective live horse racetracks indi-
14 vidually; and

15 (b) Additionally, the licensee shall pay to the Idaho state racing
16 commission a minimum of one percent (1%) of the gross daily receipts
17 from simulcast and/or televised races conducted pursuant to the race
18 purse distribution fund to the licensee whose license is being utilized
19 to conduct simulcast and/or televised races pursuant to this section.
20 These moneys shall be used by the licensee solely for live horse race
21 meet purses; and

22 (c) Approval must be obtained from the board of county commissioners;
23 and

24 (d) A license to conduct and supervise the use of the pari-mutuel system
25 by patrons on the result of simulcast and/or televised races issued pur-
26 suant to this section may be leased to another person or entity but only
27 with the approval of the Idaho state racing commission. A lessee of such
28 a license shall be held by the Idaho state racing commission to the same
29 standards as the original licensee.

30 (4) Upon written application by a live horse race licensee and approval
31 by the Idaho state racing commission, a license may be issued to conduct
32 and supervise the use of the pari-mutuel system by patrons on the result of
33 simulcast and/or televised races in a facility located in another county
34 within the state other than the county where the licensee's live racetrack
35 facility is located subject to the following restrictions:

36 (a) In addition to the distribution and payment of the handle as de-
37 scribed in section 54-2513, Idaho Code, a licensee operating under a li-
38 cense described in this subsection shall pay to the Idaho state racing
39 commission for deposit in the live horse race purse distribution fund,
40 a minimum of one percent (1%) of the gross daily receipts from simul-
41 cast and/or televised races. The Idaho state racing commission shall
42 distribute the moneys from the live horse race purse distribution fund
43 to those live horse race licensees that ran less than fifteen (15) live
44 race days during the preceding calendar year. The distribution shall be
45 made by dividing the total number of live race days of all of the qual-
46 ified live horse racetracks combined into the moneys collected by the
47 fund in any one (1) calendar year and by multiplying the result by the
48 number of days run by each of the respective live horse racetracks indi-
49 vidually; and

1 (b) Additionally, the licensee shall pay to the Idaho state racing com-
2 mission a minimum of one percent (1%) of the gross daily receipts from
3 simulcast and/or televised races conducted pursuant to the live horse
4 race purse distribution fund to the licensee whose license is being uti-
5 lized to conduct simulcast and/or televised races pursuant to this sec-
6 tion. These moneys shall be used by the licensee solely for live horse
7 race meet purses; and

8 (c) Approval must be obtained from the board of county commissioners of
9 the county in which the simulcast and/or televised race facility is to
10 be located; and

11 (d) A license to conduct and supervise the use of the pari-mutuel sys-
12 tem by patrons on the result of simulcast and/or televised races issued
13 under this section may be leased to another person or entity, but only
14 with the approval of the Idaho state racing commission. A lessee of such
15 a license shall be held by the Idaho state racing commission to the same
16 standards as the original licensee.

17 (e) No simulcast and/or televised race license transferred from one
18 (1) county to another shall be located in a facility within thirty (30)
19 miles of a live horse racetrack without the approval of that live horse
20 racetrack facility.

21 (f) No simulcast and/or televised race license can be transferred
22 into a county that has had a live race license within the prior five (5)
23 years.

24 (5) No more than one (1) simulcast and/or televised race facility per
25 county shall be allowed. This includes the one (1) simulcast license autho-
26 rized in section 54-2514A, Idaho Code.

27 (6) There is hereby created in the state treasury the live horse race
28 purse distribution fund, to which shall be deposited moneys received by the
29 Idaho state racing commission for the purposes described in this section.
30 All moneys in the live horse race purse distribution fund are hereby perpet-
31 ually appropriated to the Idaho state racing commission for payment as re-
32 quired in this section. Payments by the Idaho state racing commission from
33 the live horse race purse distribution fund to the recipient live horse race-
34 tracks shall be made no later than thirty (30) days after Idaho state racing
35 commission approval of a live race meet license application for the forth-
36 coming calendar year.

37 (7) Once a total handle exceeding fourteen million dollars
38 (\$14,000,000) is realized from simulcasting and/or televised races con-
39 ducted pursuant to this section in any one (1) calendar year, the Idaho state
40 racing commission shall submit to the Idaho horse board a sum of five percent
41 (5%) of the balance over fourteen million dollars (\$14,000,000), but not to
42 exceed twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500) to be used by the Idaho
43 horse board for youth programs and to the "Idaho Robert R. Lee Promise Schol-
44 arship Program" as detailed in chapter 43, title 33, Idaho Code, a sum of five
45 percent (5%) of the balance over fourteen million dollars (\$14,000,000), but
46 not to exceed twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500).

47 (8) Such pari-mutuel system conducted at such race meet shall not under
48 any circumstances, if conducted under the provisions of this chapter and in
49 conformity thereto and to the rules of the commission, be held or construed

1 to be unlawful, other statutes of this state to the contrary notwithstanding.
2

3 (9) The participation by a licensee in an interstate combined wagering
4 pool does not cause that licensee to be considered to be doing business in any
5 jurisdiction other than the jurisdiction in which the licensee is physically
6 located.

7 (10) Advance deposit wagering on live and/or simulcast horse racing
8 conducted by licensees is hereby declared to be lawful and within the scope
9 of the licensee's license. As used in this section, "advance deposit wager-
10 ing" means a form of wagering in which an account holder may deposit money
11 with a licensee and then use the balance to fund wagers. The bettor can
12 then contact the licensee from a location without actually being physically
13 present at the licensee's premises in order to communicate the desired use of
14 those funds for wagering purposes. However, no wager can be accepted by the
15 licensee that exceeds the amount in the account held by the licensee for the
16 person placing the wager. Any advance deposit wagering conducted by a person
17 with a provider outside of the state by telephone or other electronic means
18 shall be a felony unless that provider is licensed by the Idaho state racing
19 commission and provides a source market fee of not less than ten percent
20 (10%) of the handle forwarded monthly to the commission. In order to receive
21 an advance deposit wagering license, the applicant must comply with the
22 provisions of subsection (12) of this section and must also reach a nondis-
23 criminatory agreement regarding signal costs with any licensed facility in
24 Idaho if such provider or affiliate is sending interstate simulcast signals
25 to such licensed facility in Idaho. All moneys in the advance deposit wa-
26 gering accounts held by the commission are hereby continuously appropriated
27 to the commission, which shall retain ten percent (10%) for live racing ad-
28 ministration and remit the balance for payment as required by this section.
29 Payments to recipients shall be made annually. Distribution of the source
30 market fee shall be forty percent (40%) to purses to be deposited directly
31 into the horsemen's purse account at all tracks weighted by number of races
32 ran through the year of distribution, thirty percent (30%) to the simulcast
33 sites in the state weighted by the annual simulcast handle, five percent (5%)
34 to the track distribution fund, five percent (5%) to the breed distribution
35 fund, five percent (5%) to the Idaho state racing commission, five percent
36 (5%) to the public school income fund, and ten percent (10%) for track oper-
37 ating expenses at the live tracks with distribution weighted on the number
38 of race days. All moneys in the track operating accounts are hereby con-
39 tinuously appropriated to the commission for payment as required by this
40 section. For purposes of this section, wagering instructions concerning
41 funds held in an advance deposit account shall be deemed to be issued within
42 the licensee's enclosure. As used in this section, "source market fee" means
43 that part of a wager, made outside of the state by an Idaho resident, that is
44 returned to the state of Idaho. The commission may promulgate rules pursuant
45 to chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, to implement the provisions of this
46 subsection.

47 (11) Pari-mutuel taxes or commissions may not be imposed on any amounts
48 wagered in an interstate combined wagering pool other than amounts wagered
49 within this jurisdiction.

1 (12) No licensee shall engage in any anticompetitive or deceptive prac-
2 tices in the process of contracting for the right to send any interstate
3 simulcast signal to a licensed facility in Idaho. For purposes of this sub-
4 section, anticompetitive or deceptive practices shall include, but not be
5 limited to:

6 (a) Any agreement to charge excessive or unreasonable fees for the
7 right to receive an interstate signal. In determining whether a fee is
8 excessive or unreasonable, the commission shall consider prevailing
9 rates paid for comparable signals in the past, prevailing rates paid
10 outside Idaho and whether any commonality of ownership or revenue shar-
11 ing exists, partially or wholly, between the Idaho licensee and the
12 entity receiving the simulcast fees; or

13 (b) Any agreement, combination, trust or joint enterprise with any
14 other track or entity in which multiple interstate signals are bundled
15 together for the purpose of securing an excessive or unreasonable fee
16 for one (1) or more signals in the group in exchange for the right to
17 receive any of the signals in the group; or

18 (c) Any other activity with the purpose or effect of artificially in-
19 flating prices beyond reasonable market rates or passing on or attempt-
20 ing to pass on any portion of the ten percent (10%) advance deposit wa-
21 gering fee to licensed facilities in Idaho.

22 The commission may suspend or revoke licenses and may impose civil penalties
23 of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per occurrence for violation of this
24 subsection.

25 (13) It shall be unlawful to conduct pool selling, bookmaking, or to
26 circulate handbooks, or to bet or wager on a race of any licensed race meet,
27 other than by the pari-mutuel system; and it shall further be unlawful know-
28 ingly to permit any minor to use the pari-mutuel system.

29 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
30 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its
31 passage and approval, and retroactively to January 1, 2020.