A bill to be entitled

An act relating to pari-mutuel wagering; amending s. 550.01215, F.S.; authorizing thoroughbred permitholders to elect not to conduct live racing or games; specifying that such permitholders retain certain permits, eligibility, exemptions, and licenses; providing that certain permitholders are eligible to be a guest track, providing a timeframe that certain thoroughbred permitholders may not offer live racing, providing notice requirements; amending s. 550.26165, F.S.; providing legislative purpose; requiring certain moneys to be used for a specified purpose; requiring such awards be given at a uniform rate pursuant to a specified plan developed in a certain manner; requiring such plan be published in the Florida Administrative Register by a certain date; authorizing the commission to use flexibility in the development and implementation of a certain program; providing the source of amounts available for distribution; requiring permitholders to make certain payments by a specified date; revising thoroughbred breeders' awards; providing eligibility requirements for awards; requiring a specified association to maintain certain records; authorizing such association to require a fee for specified services; providing a

maximum for such fee; requiring purses be funded in a specified manner and paid at a specified rate; requiring awards to be paid on by a certain time; requiring the Florida Gaming Control Commission maintain certain records; requiring a certain association to remit specified funds to the state immediately; requiring such funds to be placed in a specified account; authorizing awards to be paid for races in other states or countries; requiring the commission to adopt certain rules; providing underpayment requirements for permitholders; authorizing the commission to adopt emergency rules; repealing s. 550.2625, F.S., relating to Horseracing; minimum purse requirement; Florida breeders' and owners' awards; amending s. 550.3345, F.S.; revising provisions related to the conversion of quarter horse permits to a limited thoroughbred permit; authorizing such permit locations to be moved to a licensed thoroughbred training center; providing for the licensing of thoroughbred training centers; authorizes the commission to adopt rules for such licensing and oversight; provides for board membership of the not-for-profit corporation; provides legislative findings; preempts certain local laws, charters, ordinances, resolutions, regulations, policies, initiatives, or

referendums; provides application; amending s. 550.3351, F.S.; revising the entity responsible for approving changes to live racing minimums; repealing s. 550.625, F.S., relating to Intertrack wagering; purses; breeders' awards; amending s. 550.6305, F.S.; making conforming changes; amending s. 551.104, F.S.; revising specified requirements for thoroughbred permitholders who have certain licenses; amending s. 571.265, F.S.; relating to promotion of Florida thoroughbred breeding and racing at Florida thoroughbred tracks; amending s. 849.086, F.S.; revising requirements for certain permitholders who have cardroom licenses; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 550.01215, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

550.01215 License application; periods of operation; license fees; bond.—

(1) Each permitholder shall annually, during the period between January 15 and February 4, file in writing with the commission its application for an operating license for a pari-mutuel facility for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering during the next state fiscal year, including intertrack and simulcast

race wagering. Each application for live performances must specify the number, dates, and starting times of all live performances that the permitholder intends to conduct. It must also specify which performances will be conducted as charity or scholarship performances.

(b)1. A greyhound permitholder may not conduct live racing. A jai alai permitholder, thoroughbred permitholder, harness horse racing permitholder, or quarter horse racing permitholder may elect not to conduct live racing or games. ~~A thoroughbred permitholder must conduct live racing.~~ A greyhound permitholder, jai alai permitholder, thoroughbred permitholder, harness horse racing permitholder, or quarter horse racing permitholder that does not conduct live racing or games retains its permit; is a pari-mutuel facility as defined in s. 550.002(23); if such permitholder has been issued a slot machine license, the facility where such permit is located remains an eligible facility as defined in s. 551.102(4), continues to be eligible for a slot machine license pursuant to s. 551.104(3), and is exempt from ss. 551.104(10) ~~ss. 551.104(4)(c) and (10)~~ and 551.114(2); is eligible, but not required, to be a guest track and, if the permitholder is a harness horse racing permitholder or a thoroughbred permitholder, to be a host track for purposes of intertrack wagering and simulcasting pursuant to ss. 550.3551, 550.615, 550.625, and 550.6305; and remains eligible for a cardroom license. A thoroughbred permitholder who

operates a slot machine facility or cardroom shall offer a full schedule of live racing until such permitholder notifies the commission that it will no longer offer live racing. Notice under this subparagraph is not valid unless it is delivered on or after July 1, 2027, and contains the date on which the permitholder will no longer offer live racing which may not be earlier than a date 3 years after the date of the notice. The permitholder is not required to deliver such notice when relocating pursuant to s. 550.3345 or s. 550.475.

2. A permitholder or licensee may not conduct live greyhound racing or dogracing in connection with any wager for money or any other thing of value in the state. The commission may deny, suspend, or revoke any permit or license under this chapter if a permitholder or licensee conducts live greyhound racing or dogracing in violation of this subparagraph. In addition to, or in lieu of, denial, suspension, or revocation of such permit or license, the commission may impose a civil penalty of up to $5,000 against the permitholder or licensee for a violation of this subparagraph. All penalties imposed and collected must be deposited with the Chief Financial Officer to the credit of the General Revenue Fund.

Section 2. Section 550.26165, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

(Substantial rewording of section.
See s. 550.26165, F.S., for present text.)

550.26165 Breeders' incentives, purses and special racing awards plan.—

(1) A purse structure for racehorse owners competitive with the purses offered in other states is an important factor in attracting the entry of well-bred horses in race meets in this state. The availability of awards to the owners and the breeders of Florida-bred racehorses, including the owners of Florida based stallions, is an important factor used to incentivize the purchase of Florida-bred horses at auction and to induce well-bred stallions and mares to engage in breeding activities in the state. In turn, the availability of these financial awards help to assure the containing viability of the thoroughbred industry in the state while simultaneously producing maximum revenues from licensed racing activity for the state and the counties. The purpose of this section is to encourage the agricultural activity of owning, breeding, and racing Florida-bred racehorses.

(2) Moneys dedicated in this chapter for use as purse supplements to the owners of Florida-bred racehorses, as breeders' awards, and as stallion awards are to be used to incentivize the ownership and the breeding of registered Florida-bred horses. Such awards shall be given at a uniform rate pursuant to an annual plan developed by the commission. The plan shall be developed with input from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, stakeholders in the

thoroughbred racing and breeding industry, and the general public and published in the Florida Administrative Register by January 1 for implementation during the next licensed racing year. The awards programs described in this chapter must be responsive to rapidly changing incentive programs in other states and to accomplish this goal, the commission is hereby authorized to use flexibility in the design and implementation of a competitive awards programs. The plan approved by the commission shall allocate, for distribution by category, breeders' awards, stallion awards and Florida-bred purse supplements available for distribution in the ensuing licensing year. The amount available for distribution shall be derived from the following sources:

(a) A minimum amount equal to 8.5 percent of the purse account generated through intertrack wagering and interstate simulcasting.

(b) A minimum amount equal to 0.955 percent on all pari-mutuel pools conducted on all wagering during each race meet, including any intertrack race taken pursuant to ss. 550.615-550.6305 or any interstate simulcast taken pursuant to s. 550.3551(3). This paragraph also applies to all Breeder's Cup races conducted outside this state taken pursuant to s. 550.3551(3).

(c) A minimum amount equal to 3.475 percent of the gross revenue derived by the thoroughbred permitholder when serving as

the host track for wagering on any race originating live in this state which is broadcast out-of-state to any location at which wagers are accepted pursuant to s. 550.3551(2).

The permitholder conducting the races shall make the payments authorized in this section to the commission for deposit into the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund. The permitholder shall remit such payments to the commission by the 5th day of each calendar month for such sums accruing during the preceding calendar month and provide any corresponding reporting as prescribed by the commission. Such payments together with any interest earned shall be used exclusively for the payment of breeders', stallion, or special racing awards in accordance with the plan established pursuant to this section.

(3) In order for a breeder of a Florida-bred thoroughbred horse to be eligible to receive a breeder's award, the horse must have been registered as a Florida-bred horse with the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association and the Jockey Club certificate for the horse must show that it has been duly registered as a Florida-bred horse. The Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association may charge the registrant a reasonable fee for this verification and registration not to exceed $75 per horse.

(4) In order for an owner of the sire of a thoroughbred horse winning a stakes race to be eligible to receive a stallion

award, the stallion must have been registered with the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association and the live breeding of the registered Florida-bred horse must have occurred in this state. The stallion must be standing permanently in this state during the period of time between February 1 and June 15 of each year or, if the stallion is dead, must have stood permanently in this state for a period of not less than 1 year immediately before its death. The removal of a stallion from this state during the period of time between February 1 and June 15 of any year for any reason, other than exclusively for prescribed medical treatment, as approved by the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, renders the owner or owners of the stallion ineligible to receive a stallion award under any circumstances for offspring sired before removal, however, if a removed stallion is returned to this state, all offspring sired subsequent to the return make the owner or owners of the stallion eligible for the stallion award but only for those offspring sired subsequent to such return to this state. The Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association shall maintain complete records showing the date the stallion arrived in this state for the first time, whether or not the stallion remained in the state permanently, the location of the stallion, and whether the stallion is still standing in this state and complete records showing awards earned, received, and distributed. The Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association may

charge the stallion owner a reasonable fee for this service not to exceed $75 per stallion.

(5) Purses shall be funded from the pari-mutuel pools conducted by the permitholder. A thoroughbred permit shall pay as purses during its race meets an amount equal to 7.0 percent of all wagers placed pursuant to the provisions of s. 550.615, as purses during its current race meet.

(6) A permitholder conducting a thoroughbred horse race under the provisions of this chapter shall, within 30 days after the end of the race meet during which the race is conducted, certify to the commission such information relating to the thoroughbred horses winning a stakes or other horserace at the meet as may be required to determine the eligibility for payment of breeders', stallion, and special racing awards.

(7) The commission shall maintain complete records showing the starters and winners in all races conducted at thoroughbred tracks in this state and shall maintain complete records showing awards earned, received, and distributed.

(8) Any funds in the possession of the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association that had been paid to it by any thoroughbred permitholder as required by any provision of chapter 550 or chapter 551 in effect when the payment was made shall be immediately paid to the commission for deposit to the Pari-mutuel Wagering Trust Fund. The commission shall authorize payment from such funds to any breeder or stallion owner

entitled to an award that has not been previously paid by the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association in accordance with the applicable plan of distribution.

(9) Breeders' awards or stallion awards authorized under this chapter, if authorized by a rule of the commission, may be paid with respect to thoroughbred horse races taking place in other states or countries.

(10) The commission shall adopt reasonable rules to ensure the timely and accurate payment of all amounts withheld by horserace permitholders regarding the distribution of purses, owners' awards, and other amounts collected for payment to owners and breeders pursuant to this section and this chapter.

(11) Each permitholder that fails to pay out all moneys collected for payment to owners and breeders shall, within 10 days after the end of the meet during which the permitholder underpaid purses, deposit an amount equal to the underpayment into a separate interest-bearing account established by the commission, which moneys shall be distributed to owners and breeders in accordance with commission rules.

(12) The commission may at any time adopt emergency rules pursuant to s. 120.54 to implement this section. The Legislature finds that such emergency rulemaking power is necessary for the preservation of the rights and welfare of the people in order to provide additional funds to benefit the statewide thoroughbred racing and breeding industry. The Legislature further finds that

the unique nature of breeding and racing operations require, from time to time, that the commission respond as quickly as is practicable to changes in the marketplace. Therefore, in adopting such emergency rules, the commission need not make the findings required by s. 120.54(4)(a). Emergency rules adopted under this section are exempt from s. 120.54(4)(c) and shall remain in effect until replaced by other emergency rules or by rules adopted under the nonemergency rulemaking procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Section 3. Section 550.2625, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 550.3345, Florida Statutes, is amended and subsections (4) and (5) are added to that section, to read:

550.3345 Conversion of quarter horse permit to a limited thoroughbred permit.—

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the holder of a quarter horse racing permit issued under s. 550.334 may, within 1 year after the effective date of this section, apply to the commission for a transfer of the quarter horse racing permit to a not-for-profit corporation formed under state law to serve the purposes of the state as provided in subsection (1). The board of directors of the not-for-profit corporation must be comprised of 11 members, 4 of whom shall be designated by the applicant, 4 of whom shall be designated by the Florida

Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, and 3 of whom shall be designated by the other 8 directors, with at least 1 of these 3 members being an authorized representative of another thoroughbred permitholder in this state. The not-for-profit corporation shall submit an application to the commission for review and approval of the transfer in accordance with s. 550.054. Upon approval of the transfer by the commission, and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the not-for-profit corporation may, within 1 year after its receipt of the permit, request that the commission convert the quarter horse racing permit to a permit authorizing the holder to conduct pari-mutuel wagering meets of thoroughbred racing. Neither the transfer of the quarter horse racing permit nor its conversion to a limited thoroughbred permit shall be subject to the mileage limitation or the ratification election as set forth under s. 550.054(2) or s. 550.0651. Upon receipt of the request for such conversion, the commission shall timely issue a converted permit. The converted permit and the not-for-profit corporation shall be subject to the following requirements:

(d) Racing under the permit may take place only at the location for which the original quarter horse racing permit was issued, which may be leased by the not-for-profit corporation for that purpose; however, the not-for-profit corporation may, without the conduct of any ratification election pursuant to s. 550.054(13) or s. 550.0651, move the location of racing under

the permit to either:

1. Another location in the same county provided that such relocation is approved under the zoning and land use regulations of the applicable county or municipality; or.

2. To a licensed thoroughbred training center located in a county which has previously authorized pari-mutuel wagering pursuant to subsection (4). In order to be licensed as a thoroughbred training center, it must be designed and operated for the purpose of training, boarding, and caring for thoroughbred racehorses and be capable of providing instruction for sundry equestrian activities related to this breed of horse. The facility must have permanent stabling for at least 1,000 horses and operate multiple racecourses of varying surfaces for the training of thoroughbred racing. Each racecourse must be at least 50 feet wide and 3200 feet in length. The training facility may include riding arenas, viewing stands, pastures, grooming and veterinary care areas, and related amenities. Nothwithstanding any other provision of law, such training center may not operate a cardroom, or be issued a cardroom operating license unless such training center operated a valid cardroom license issued prior to January 1, 2025 directly under its permit. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such training center may not operate a slot machine facility, or be issued a slot machine facility operating license.

(4) In order to foster and protect the statewide

importance and impact of thoroughbred racing and breeding throughout the state, the commission may adopt rules for the licensing and oversight of thoroughbred training centers in Florida which host live thoroughbred racing in conjunction with their training activities. Racing at such facilities shall only be conducted by a permit converted under this section that has provided sufficient evidence to the commission that the governance of the not-for-profit corporation is controlled by board comprised of three appointees from owner of the training center, an individual appointed by the chair of the commission, and an individual appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The board members may expand the board membership and make additional appointments to the board from time to time pursuant to the bylaws of the corporation.

(5) The Legislature finds and declares that it has exclusive preemptive authority over the conduct of all aspects of the business operations conducted at licensed thoroughbred training centers authorized under this section to conduct pari-mutuel wagering activities at such facilities, including but not limited to the regulation of all equestrian activities, all wagering activities and land use. As provided by law, only the commission shall administer this section and regulate the equestrian and pari-mutuel wagering activities conduced at, and land use applicable to, licensed thoroughbred training centers

as authorized in this section and the rules adopted by the commission with respect thereto. Any provision of a local law, a charter, an ordinance, a resolution, a regulation, a policy, an initiative, or a referendum which is in conflict with this section and which existed before, on, or after July 1, 2025, is prohibited, void, and expressly preempted to the state.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 550.3551, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

550.3551 Transmission of racing and jai alai information; commingling of pari-mutuel pools.—

(6)(a) A permitholder conducting live races or games may not conduct fewer than eight live races or games on any authorized race day except as provided in this subsection. A thoroughbred permitholder may not conduct fewer than eight live races on any race day without the written approval of the ~~Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association and the Florida Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, Inc., unless it is determined by the commission that another~~ entity that represents a majority of the thoroughbred racehorse owners and trainers conducting racing during the licensed meet ~~in the state~~. If conducting live racing, a harness permitholder may conduct fewer than eight live races on any authorized race day. Any harness horse permitholder may receive full-card broadcasts of harness horse races conducted at harness racetracks outside this state at the harness track of the permitholder and accept

wagers on such harness races.

Section 6. Section 550.625, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 7. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (e) of subsection (9) of section 550.6305, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

550.6305 Intertrack wagering; guest track payments; accounting rules.—

(9) A host track that has contracted with an out-of-state horse track to broadcast live races conducted at such out-of-state horse track pursuant to s. 550.3551(5) may broadcast such out-of-state races to any guest track and accept wagers thereon in the same manner as is provided in s. 550.3551.

(a) For purposes of this section, "net proceeds" means the amount of takeout remaining after the payment of state taxes, purses required pursuant to s. 550.0951(3)(c)1., the cost to the permitholder required to be paid to the out-of-state horse track, and breeders' awards paid to the commission ~~Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association~~ and the Florida Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association, to be used as set forth in this chapter ~~s. 550.625(2)(a) and (b)~~.

(b) Notwithstanding any ~~the~~ provisions of this chapter to the contrary ~~subsection (1) and s. 550.625(1) and (2)(a)~~, the distribution of the net proceeds that are retained by a thoroughbred host track from the takeout on an out-of-state race rebroadcast under this subsection shall be as follows:

1. One-third of the remainder of such proceeds shall be

paid to the guest track;

2. One-third of the remainder of such proceeds shall be retained by the host track; and

3. One-third of the remainder of such proceeds shall be paid by the host track as purses at the host track.

(e) Notwithstanding any ~~the~~ provisions of this chapter to the contrary ~~subsection (1) and s. 550.625(1) and (2)(b)~~, the proceeds that are retained by a harness host facility from the takeout on a race broadcast under this subsection shall be distributed as follows:

1. Of the total intertrack handle on the broadcast, 1 percent shall be deducted from the proceeds and paid to the Florida Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association, Inc.~~, to be used as set forth in s. 550.625(2)(b)~~;

2. One-third of the remainder of such proceeds shall be paid to the guest facility;

3. One-third of the remainder of such proceeds shall be retained by the host facility; and

4. One-third of the remainder of said proceeds shall be paid by the host facility as purses at the host facility.

Section 8. Paragraphs (d) through (i) of subsection (4) of section 551.104, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (c) through (h), respectively, and present paragraph (c) of subsection (4) and paragraph (a) of subsection (10) are amended, to read:

551.104 License to conduct slot machine gaming.—

(4) As a condition of licensure and to maintain continued authority for the conduct of slot machine gaming, the slot machine licensee shall:

~~(c) If a thoroughbred permitholder, conduct no fewer than a full schedule of live racing or games as defined in s. 550.002(10). A permitholder's responsibility to conduct live races or games shall be reduced by the number of races or games that could not be conducted due to the direct result of fire, strike, war, hurricane, pandemic, or other disaster or event beyond the control of the permitholder.~~

~~(10)(a)1. No slot machine license or renewal thereof shall be issued to an applicant holding a permit under chapter 550 to conduct pari-mutuel wagering meets of thoroughbred racing unless the applicant has on file with the commission a binding written agreement between the applicant and the Florida Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, Inc., governing the payment of purses on live thoroughbred races conducted at the licensee's pari-mutuel facility. In addition, no slot machine license or renewal thereof shall be issued to such an applicant unless the applicant has on file with the commission a binding written agreement between the applicant and the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, Inc., governing the payment of breeders', stallion, and special racing awards on live thoroughbred races conducted at the licensee's pari-mutuel~~

~~facility. The agreement governing purses and the agreement governing awards may direct the payment of such purses and awards from revenues generated by any wagering or gaming the applicant is authorized to conduct under Florida law. All purses and awards shall be subject to the terms of chapter 550. All sums for breeders', stallion, and special racing awards shall be remitted monthly to the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, Inc., for the payment of awards subject to the administrative fee authorized in s. 550.2625(3).~~

~~2. No slot machine license or renewal thereof shall be issued to an applicant holding a permit under chapter 550 to conduct pari-mutuel wagering meets of quarter horse racing unless the applicant has on file with the commission a binding written agreement between the applicant and the Florida Quarter Horse Racing Association or the association representing a majority of the horse owners and trainers at the applicant's eligible facility, governing the payment of purses on live quarter horse races conducted at the licensee's pari-mutuel facility. The agreement governing purses may direct the payment of such purses from revenues generated by any wagering or gaming the applicant is authorized to conduct under Florida law. All purses shall be subject to the terms of chapter 550.~~

Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 571.265, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (c), and paragraph (c) is added to subsection (1) and a new paragraph (b)

is added to subsection (3) of that section, to read:

571.265 Promotion of Florida thoroughbred breeding and of thoroughbred racing at Florida thoroughbred tracks; distribution of funds.—

(1) For purposes of this section, the term:

(b) "Commission" means the Florida Gaming Control Commission.

(3) The department shall distribute the funds made available under this section as follows:

(a) Five million dollars shall be distributed to the association to be used for the following:

1. One million five hundred thousand dollars shall be used for a program established by the department for the recruitment and retention of thoroughbred stallions and mares for breeding. The department shall adopt rules and administer a grant program to implement this section which shall be available to new stallions and mares registered with the association after of the effective date of this act. Funds may be used to assist with the cost of relocation of out of state stallions and mares and to subsidize the costs of breeding to registered Florida stallions. Reimbursement rates under the program shall be as follows:

a. $25,000 shall be available after verification by the department of the relocation and the registration with the association of a new stallion from out of state. No more than ten new stallions each year that relocate to Florida and

register with the association may be eligible for funds under this paragraph.

b. Up to $15,000 in additional funds shall be available for each stallion registered with the association after the effective date of this act subject to performance criteria as a stud established by the department for payment at the conclusion of the first foaling season following year after its registration.

c. $1,500 per mare that has previously been bred to a thoroughbred stallion in an out of state location upon the mare's relocation to Florida and the mare's registration with the association after the effective date of this act to assist in the costs associated with the mare's relocation to Florida and registration with the association.

d. $1,000 per mare located in Florida that at the time of registration with the association has not previously been bred to a thoroughbred stallion.

2. Three million five hundred thousand dollars shall be used to provide for the reimbursement of stallion fees to the owner of mares registered with the association after the mare produces a live foal from a breeding with a stallion participating in the program. The owner of a mare may seek reimbursement after the mare produces a live foal and the foal's registration with the association. The owners of mares registered with the association may seek reimbursement for

stallion stud fees from the department under the following criteria:

a. Owners of mares may only seek reimbursement for stallion stud fees which were $10,000 or less at the time of the breeding.

b. The owner of a mare registered with the association before the effective date of this act or the owner of a mare registered after the effective date of this act that received reimbursement for a stallion stud fee resulting in a live foal under sub-paragraph c. shall receive reimbursement of fifty percent of the stallion fee, up to $7,500.

c. The owner of a mare registered with the association after the effective date of this act shall receive a reimbursement of one hundred percent of the stallion stud fee, up to $10,000 for its first live foal that the mare produces from a breeding to a stallion participating in the program.

d. The department may adjust the caps established under sub-paragraph a. in the annual program adopted by the department beginning with the 2028 breeding season and in sub-paragraph b. beginning with the 2029 breeding season.

3. The owner of any horse participating in or receiving funds from this program may only sell the participating mare or stallion in a private sale or via a public sale at a sales venue located in Florida and licensed by the department pursuant to s. 535.01.

4. The department may at any time adopt emergency rules, forms and audit procedures pursuant to s. 120.54. The Legislature finds that such emergency rulemaking power is necessary for the preservation of the rights and welfare of the people participating in the annual program in order to provide these additional funds to benefit the public. The Legislature further finds that the unique nature of thoroughbred breeding operations requires, from time to time, that the department respond as quickly as is practicable to changes in the marketplace. Therefore, in adopting such emergency rules, the department need not make the findings required by s. 120.54(4)(a). Emergency rules adopted under this section are exempt from s. 120.54(4)(c) and shall remain in effect until replaced by other emergency rules or by rules adopted under the nonemergency rulemaking procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act.

5. The association may charge a registration fee not to exceed $75 for each registered mare participating in the program and shall submit annually to the commission and the department by July 30 a report detailing the new and current owners and horses participating in the program.

~~1. Purses or purse supplements for Florida-bred or Florida-sired horses registered with the association that participate in Florida thoroughbred races.~~

~~2. Awards to breeders of Florida-bred horses registered~~

~~with the association that win, place, or show in Florida thoroughbred races.~~

~~3. Awards to owners of stallions who sired Florida-bred horses registered with the association that win Florida thoroughbred stakes races, if the stallions are registered with the association as Florida stallions standing in this state.~~

~~4. Other racing incentives connected to Florida-bred or Florida-sired horses registered with the association that participate in thoroughbred races in Florida.~~

~~5. Awards administration.~~

~~6. Promotion of the Florida thoroughbred breeding industry.~~

(b) Five million dollars shall be distributed to Tampa Bay Downs, Inc., to be used as purses in thoroughbred races conducted at its pari-mutuel facilities and for the maintenance and operation of that facility, pursuant to an agreement with its local majority horsemen's group.

(c) Fifteen million dollars shall be distributed to Gulfstream Park Racing Association, Inc., to be used as purses in thoroughbred races conducted by either Gulfstream Park Racing Association or Gulfstream Park Thoroughbred Aftercare and Retirement Association at their current pari-mutuel facility as allowed under s. 550.475 and s. 550.3345(2)(d) and for the maintenance and operation of its facility at its pari-mutuel facility and for the maintenance and operation of its facility,

pursuant to an agreement with the Florida Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, Inc.

(d) Two and one-half million dollars shall be distributed as follows:

1. Two million dollars to Gulfstream Park Racing Association, Inc., and Gulfstream Park Thoroughbred Aftercare and Retirement Association, to be used as purses and purse supplements for Florida-bred or Florida-sired horses registered with the association that participate in thoroughbred races at the permitholder's pari-mutuel facility, or a facility as allowed under s. 550.475 and s. 550.3345(2)(d), pursuant to an annual plan established by the commission a written agreement filed with the department establishing the rates, procedures, and eligibility requirements entered into by the permitholder, the association, and the Florida Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, Inc.

2. Five hundred thousand dollars to Tampa Bay Downs, Inc., to be used as purses and purse supplements for Florida-bred or Florida-sired horses registered with the association that participate in thoroughbred races at the permitholder's pari-mutuel facility, pursuant to an annual plan established by the commission. a written agreement filed with the department establishing the rates, procedures, and eligibility requirements entered into by the permitholder, the association, and the local majority horsemen's group at the permitholder's pari-mutuel

facility.

(4) If either permitholder referenced to in s. 571.265(b) and s. 571.265(c) elects to no longer offer live racing performances such permitholder allocation of the fund shall be distributed to any other permitholder which is licensed to offer a full calendar of live racing at location which is more than 125 miles from the location of a permitholder which did not elect to discontinue offering live performances. If there are more than one, the funds shall be prorated proportionately according to live race days. If there are no permitholders offering live racing performances outside the 125 mile restricted area, the nonelecting permitholder shall receive 100 percent of the funds subject to offering a full racing calendar.

(5)(4) On or before the first day of the August following each fiscal year in which a recipient under this section received or used funds pursuant to this section, each such recipient must submit a report to the department detailing how all funds were used in the prior fiscal year.

Section 10. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) and paragraph (d) of subsection (13) of section 849.086, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

849.086 Cardrooms authorized.—

(5) LICENSE REQUIRED; APPLICATION; FEES.—No person may operate a cardroom in this state unless such person holds a valid cardroom license issued pursuant to this section.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a pari-mutuel permitholder, other than a permitholder issued a permit pursuant to s. 550.3345 or a purchaser, transferee, or assignee holding a valid permit for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering approved pursuant to s. 550.054(15)(a), may not be issued a license for the operation of a cardroom if the permitholder did not hold an operating license for the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering for fiscal year 2020-2021. In order for an initial cardroom license to be issued to a thoroughbred permitholder issued a permit pursuant to s. 550.3345, the applicant must have requested, as part of its pari-mutuel annual license application, to conduct at least a full schedule of live racing. ~~In order for a cardroom license to be renewed by a thoroughbred permitholder, the applicant must have requested, as part of its pari-mutuel annual license application, to conduct at least 90 percent of the total number of live performances conducted by such permitholder during either the state fiscal year in which its initial cardroom license was issued or the state fiscal year immediately prior thereto if the permitholder ran at least a full schedule of live racing or games in the prior year~~.

(13) TAXES AND OTHER PAYMENTS.—

(d)1. Each jai alai permitholder that conducts live performances and operates a cardroom facility shall use at least 4 percent of such permitholder's cardroom monthly gross receipts to supplement jai alai prize money during the permitholder's

next ensuing pari-mutuel meet.

~~2. Each thoroughbred permitholder or harness horse racing permitholder that conducts live performances and operates a cardroom facility shall use at least 50 percent of such permitholder's cardroom monthly net proceeds as follows: 47 percent to supplement purses and 3 percent to supplement breeders' awards during the permitholder's next ensuing racing meet.~~

2.~~3.~~ No cardroom license or renewal thereof shall be issued to an applicant holding a permit under chapter 550 to conduct pari-mutuel wagering meets of quarter horse racing and conducting live performances unless the applicant has on file with the commission a binding written agreement between the applicant and the Florida Quarter Horse Racing Association or the association representing a majority of the horse owners and trainers at the applicant's eligible facility, governing the payment of purses on live quarter horse races conducted at the licensee's pari-mutuel facility. The agreement governing purses may direct the payment of such purses from revenues generated by any wagering or gaming the applicant is authorized to conduct under Florida law. All purses shall be subject to the terms of chapter 550.

Section 11. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.