

SENATE, No. 3510

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 26, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator PAUL A. SARLO

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator JOHN J. BURZICHELLI

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Modifies certain operating requirements for simulcasting facilities; reduces minimum number of required annual thoroughbred races from 50 to 25.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning horse racing in this State and simulcasting
2 facility operations, and amending P.L.2001, c.199 and P.L.2006,
3 c.19.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. Section 1 of P.L.2006, c.19 (C.5:5-22.2) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the
11 contrary, the New Jersey Racing Commission, in effectuating its
12 responsibilities under P.L.1940, c.17 (C.5:5-22 et seq.), the
13 "Simulcasting Racing Act," P.L.1985, c.269 (C.5:5-110 et seq.), the
14 "Off-Track and Account Wagering Act," P.L.2001, c.199 (C.5:5-
15 127 et seq.), and the "Casino Simulcasting Act," P.L.1992, c.19
16 (C.5:12-191 et seq.), and under such circumstances and for such
17 races as the commission shall deem appropriate, shall:

18 a. at the request of a permitholder, allow a permitholder to
19 offer a future wager consisting of wagering on prospective entrants
20 for specific races, with wagering conducted in advance, one or more
21 parimutuel pools formed and closed on dates prior to the date of the
22 race, and all wagers considered final and no refunds paid even if,
23 for any reason, an entrant fails to participate in the race;

24 b. provide that the minimum wager amount that may be placed
25 on a horse race may be \$0.10 or greater;

26 c. provide that, after **[three years]** one year following the date
27 of purchase, unclaimed cash vouchers shall be paid 50% to the
28 permitholder at the location where purchased and 50% to the purse
29 account at the location where purchased, provided that if the
30 permitholder conducts both harness and thoroughbred races the
31 purse amount shall be divided equally between the harness and
32 thoroughbred purse accounts;

33 d. at the request of a permitholder or the operator of a casino
34 simulcasting facility, allow the permitholder or the operator of a
35 casino simulcasting facility, whenever the permitholder or casino
36 simulcasting facility is open to the public for wagering, to accept a
37 wager in advance of a race or races at an in-State or out-of-State
38 sending track under a simulcast agreement without receiving a
39 simulcast transmission thereof or displaying live video of all races
40 from an in-State or out-of-State sending track thereof **[when:** (1)
41 the race is to be conducted between the hours of 11:00 PM and
42 11:00 AM local New Jersey time, or at such other times as the
43 commission shall permit due to extenuating circumstances; or (2) at
44 other times, as the commission shall permit, when a racetrack, off-
45 track wagering facility, or casino simulcasting facility is

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 temporarily closed due to the hosting of an event at that facility that
2 warrants the closure of that facility for a period not to exceed 24
3 hours, provided that a simulcast transmission of that race is
4 received and displayed under a simulcast transmission agreement at
5 any other racetrack, off-track wagering facility, or casino
6 simulcasting facility in this State]; and

7 e. allow a permitholder to pay an amount due a winning
8 ticketholder, notwithstanding that the ticketholder is unable to
9 produce the actual ticket, if the permitholder is able to verify
10 independently through electronic or other means approved by the
11 commission that the ticketholder purchased the ticket.

12 (cf: P.L.2011, c.48, s.1)

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14 2. Section 30 of P.L.2001, c.199 (C.5:5-156) is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 30. a. The permit holder at Monmouth Park and the thoroughbred
17 permit holder at Meadowlands Racetrack together shall schedule
18 annually no fewer than 141 thoroughbred race dates, except that the
19 thoroughbred permit holder may decrease the annual number of
20 scheduled thoroughbred race dates to no fewer than **[50]** 25
21 thoroughbred race dates upon written consent from the New Jersey
22 Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association.

23 b. The standardbred permit holder at Meadowlands Racetrack
24 shall schedule annually no fewer than 151 standardbred race dates,
25 except that the standardbred permit holder may decrease the annual
26 number of scheduled standardbred race dates to no fewer than 75
27 standardbred race dates upon written consent from the Standardbred
28 Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey.

29 c. The permit holders at Freehold Raceway shall schedule
30 annually no fewer than 192 standardbred race dates, except that the
31 permit holders may decrease the annual number of scheduled race
32 dates to no fewer than 75 standardbred race dates upon written
33 consent from the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association
34 of New Jersey.

35 d. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2017, c.172)

36 (cf: P.L.2017, c.172, s.1)

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38 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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43 This bill removes the limitations on when a simulcasting facility
44 can accept future wagers on horse races that the facility will not be
45 receiving a simulcast transmission of, or displaying. The facility
46 will be allowed to accept wagers on future races any time the
47 facility is open to the public.

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1 The bill also reduces the timeframe required for unpaid cash
2 vouchers to lapse from three years to one year. The cash value of
3 the lapsed voucher is divided equally between the permitholder at
4 the location where the voucher was purchased and the purse account
5 at the same location.

6 Finally, the bill reduces the number of thoroughbred races
7 required to be held annually at the Meadowlands Racetrack and
8 Monmouth Park from 50 to 25, with the written consent of the New
9 Jersey Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association.