

6481-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Commerce & Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Hewitt, Jacobsen, Deccio, Rasmussen and Honeyford)

Brief Description: Governing class 1 racing associations' authority to participate in parimutuel wagering.

SB 6481-S.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS PASSED LEGISLATURE)

Provides that the horse racing commission may authorize advance deposit wagering to be conducted by: (1) A licensed class 1 racing association operating a live horse racing facility; or

(2) The operator of an advance deposit wagering system accepting wagers pursuant to an agreement with a licensed class 1 racing association. The agreement between the operator and the class 1 racing association must be approved by the commission.

Provides that a system of advance deposit wagering located outside or within this state may not accept wagers from residents or other individuals located within this state, and residents or other individuals located within this state are prohibited from placing wagers through advance deposit wagering systems, except with an entity authorized to conduct advance deposit wagering under this act.

Declares that, as used in this act, "advance deposit wagering" means a form of parimutuel wagering in which an individual deposits money in an account with an entity authorized by the commission to conduct advance deposit wagering and then the account funds are used to pay for parimutuel wagers made in person, by telephone, or through communication by other electronic means.

Requires that, in order to participate in advance deposit wagering, the holder of a class 1 racing association license must have conducted at least one full live racing season. All class 1 racing associations must complete a live race meet within each succeeding twelve-month period to maintain eligibility to continue participating in advance deposit wagering.

Provides that, in order to participate in parimutuel wagering at a satellite location or locations within the state of Washington, the holder of a class 1 racing association license must have conducted at least one full live racing season. All class 1 racing associations must hold a live race meet within each succeeding twelve-month period to maintain eligibility to continue to participate in parimutuel wagering at a satellite location or locations.

Provides that, upon written application to the commission, a class 1 racing association may be authorized to transmit simulcasts of live horse races conducted at its racetrack to locations outside of the state of Washington approved by the commission and in accordance with the interstate horse racing act of 1978 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 3001 to 3007) or any other applicable laws.

Provides that a licensed class 1 racing association may be approved to disseminate imported simulcast race card programs to

locations outside the live racing facility of the class 1 racing association, provided that the class 1 racing association has conducted at least forty live racing days with an average on-track handle on the live racing product of a minimum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars per day during the twelve months immediately preceding the application date.