

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2520**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Hall**

February 24, 2012

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An act to amend Section 19596.1 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to horse racing, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2520, as introduced, Hall. Horse racing: harness or quarter horses.

Under existing law, the California Board of Horse Racing may authorize a harness or quarter horse association conducting a horse race to accept wagers on the results of out-of-state, out-of-country, and other designated harness or quarter horse races, if specified conditions are met, including that the association conducts at least 7 live races and imports not more than 8 races on live racing days.

This bill would revise that provision to instead permit the association to import not more than 10 races on live racing days.

Under existing law, revenues distributed to the state from horse racing are required to be deposited in the Fair and Exposition Fund and, unless otherwise appropriated are continuously appropriated to the Secretary of Food and Agriculture for various regulatory and general governmental purposes. By providing for the importation of additional out-of-state and out-of-country races, this bill would authorize additional wagering, and would increase the amount of continuously appropriated license fees, thereby making an appropriation.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 19596.1 of the Business and Professions  
2 Code is amended to read:

3 19596.1. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the  
4 board may authorize a harness or quarter horse association  
5 conducting a race meeting to accept wagers on the results of  
6 out-of-state or out-of-country harness or quarter horse races and,  
7 with the board's approval and with the concurrence of the  
8 horsemen's organization contracting with the association, other  
9 designated harness or quarter horse races during the period it is  
10 conducting the racing meeting, if all of the following conditions  
11 are met:

12 (1) The authorization complies with federal laws, including, but  
13 not limited to, Chapter 57 (commencing with Section 3001) of  
14 Title 15 of the United States Code.

15 (2) Wagering is offered only within the racing inclosure and  
16 only within 36 hours of the running of the out-of-state feature race.

17 (3) The association conducts at least seven live races, and  
18 imports not more than ~~eight~~ 10 races on those days during a racing  
19 meeting when live races are being run, except as provided in  
20 subdivision (b).

21 (4) If only one breed of horse specified in this section is being  
22 raced on a given day, then the association conducting the live  
23 racing may import those races which would otherwise be simulcast  
24 by the association which is not racing. After the usual deductions,  
25 including the portion for the racing association, the portion  
26 remaining for purses from these races shall be distributed equally  
27 for purses for harness horsemen and quarter horse horsemen.

28 (5) No quarter horse or harness racing association shall accept  
29 wagers on out-of-state or out-of-country quarter horse or harness  
30 races commencing before 5:30 p.m., Pacific standard time, without  
31 the consent of any thoroughbred association or fair that is then  
32 conducting a live racing meeting in this state.

33 (b) An association that is authorized to import races pursuant  
34 to subdivision (a) may, at its sole discretion, import fewer than the  
35 maximum number of harness or quarter horse races authorized in  
36 paragraph (3) of subdivision (a). For up to two races per night, for  
37 each race that is not imported under the maximum authorized by  
38 paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) on a particular night of racing, the

1 association may add a race to the number of races allowable under  
2 the maximum authorization on another night of racing. However,  
3 no more than two races may be added under this subdivision to  
4 the number allowable on a single night, and the total number of  
5 imported races over a calendar year may not exceed the total  
6 number of imported races authorized pursuant to paragraphs (3)  
7 and (4) of subdivision (a).

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