

2015 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 135

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

HORSE RACING. Provides for the number of live racing days at eligible facilities located in Bossier Parish. (8/1/15)

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 4:214.1(C), relative to horse racing at eligible facilities in Bossier Parish; to provide for the minimum number of live racing days; to provide for exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 4:214.1(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§214.1. Minimum live racing dates; offtrack and other authorized wagering

\* \* \*

**C. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an association that owns a pari-mutual wagering facility in Bossier Parish shall not be licensed to conduct offtrack or other authorized wagering in the state unless it conducts live horse racing for not less than sixty-five racing days at its eligible facilities located in Bossier Parish. The association shall determine, with approval of the commission, the actual number of racing days within a certain time period for both thoroughbred races and quarter horse races to be conducted within the sixty-five racing days. The minimum racing requirements contained in this**

1        Subsection shall be mandatory unless the association is prevented from live  
 2        racing as a result of a natural disaster, an act of God, force majeure, a  
 3        catastrophe, or such other occurrence over which the association has no control.  
 4        When a pari-mutual wagering facility and a related offtrack betting facility are  
 5        sold, the purchaser shall conduct the minimum number of live racing days  
 6        required by this Subsection as a condition of operating the offtrack betting  
 7        facility.

---

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cathy Wells.

---

	DIGEST	
SB 135 Original	2015 Regular Session	Peacock

Present law, relative to live horse racing, prohibits an association from conducting offtrack wagering in Louisiana unless it conducts live horse racing for at least 130 racing days within each 52-week period.

Present law further provides that the required minimum racing days shall be not less than 84 thoroughbred horse racing days conducted during 21 consecutive weeks and not less than 46 quarter horse racing days conducted during 12 consecutive weeks. At any facility where the purse revenue derived from slot machines is limited by law to a certain expressly stated number of slot machines, then the facility shall, over a 52-week period, maintain at least 80 thoroughbred horse racing days conducted during 20 consecutive weeks and at least 10 quarter horse racing days conducted during three consecutive weeks.

Proposed law provides that notwithstanding any provision of present law to the contrary, eligible facilities located in Bossier Parish are required to conduct live horse racing for not less than 65 racing days. Proposed law requires the association to determine, with approval of the commission, the actual number of racing days for thoroughbred and quarter horses to be conducted within the sixty-five racing days.

Present law provides for exceptions to mandatory racing days for natural disasters, acts of God, force majeure, a catastrophe, or other such occurrence over which the association has no control.

Proposed law retains present law exceptions to mandatory racing days.

Present law provides if the pari-mutual wagering facility and related offtrack betting facility are sold, the purchaser is required to conduct the minimum number of live racing days as a condition of operating the offtrack betting (OTB) facility.

Proposed law retains prior law relative to sale of the facility.

Effective August 1, 2015.

(Adds R.S. 4:214.1(C))