

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 547

BY REPRESENTATIVES BOYER, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BOYD, CHASSION,  
DESHOTEL, DICKERSON, EGAN, FISHER, HUGHES, JACKSON, KNOX,  
LAFLEUR, LARVADAIN, ST. BLANC, TAYLOR, WALTERS, WILLARD, AND  
YOUNG

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 4:149(A) and R.S. 27:44(22), 205(30), 602(introductory  
3 paragraph), (19), and (22), and 625(G)(4) and to enact R.S. 4:200 and R.S. 27:86(E),  
4 249.1(E), 603(A)(2)(a)(xvii), 608(B)(3), and 612, relative to pari-mutuel wagering;  
5 to authorize fixed odds wagering on horse racing; to provide for definitions; to create  
6 the Fixed Odds Horse Wagering Purse Supplement Fund; to provide a percentage of  
7 proceeds to credited to the Fixed Odds Horse Wagering Purse Supplement Fund; to  
8 provide for the allocation of monies from the fund; to provide for the limitation on  
9 certain types of wagers; to provide for the duties of the Louisiana Gaming Control  
10 Board; to provide for rulemaking; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for  
11 related matters.

12 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

13 Section 1. R.S. 4:149(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 4:200 is hereby  
14 enacted to read as follows:

15 §149. Wagering; rules and regulations

16 A. The commission may prescribe rules and regulations under which shall  
17 be conducted all horse races upon the results of which there is wagering. The

1 commission shall, as may be necessary, prescribe additional special rules and  
 2 regulations applicable separately to thoroughbreds and quarter horses. The  
 3 commission shall make rules governing, permitting, and regulating the wagering on  
 4 horse races under the form of mutuel wagering by patrons, known as pari-mutuel  
 5 wagering, whether on live or historical horse races. Only those persons receiving a  
 6 license from the commission may conduct this type of wagering, and shall restrict  
 7 this form of wagering to any space within the race meeting grounds or an offtrack  
 8 wagering facility, as determined solely by the commission. ~~All~~ Except as provided  
 9 in this Section or in R.S. 27:612, all other forms of wagering on the result of horse  
 10 races are illegal.

\* \* \*

12 §200. Fixed Odds Horse Wagering Purse Supplement Fund; creation

13 A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special fund to be known  
 14 as the Fixed Odds Horse Wagering Supplement Fund, hereafter referred to in this  
 15 Section as the "fund".

16 B. Any appropriation by the legislature to the commission from the fund  
 17 shall be utilized to supplement breeder awards and purses for Louisiana bred  
 18 thoroughbreds and quarter horses as provided in this Section.

19 C. Monies in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in the same  
 20 manner as monies in the state general fund. Interest earned on the investments of  
 21 monies in the fund shall be deposited in and credited to the fund. Unexpended and  
 22 unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the  
 23 fund.

24 D. Monies in the fund shall only be withdrawn pursuant to an appropriation  
 25 by the legislature solely to implement the provisions of this Section.

26 E. Each fiscal year, the commission shall allocate any appropriations  
 27 received pursuant to R.S. 27:625(G)(4) as follows:

28 (1) Fifty-five percent of the funds appropriated to the commission pursuant  
 29 to this Section shall be allocated and provided to the Horsemen's Bookkeeper to be  
 30 used as purses at the licensed racing associations in the state that conduct live horse



1 is accepted by a licensed racehorse wagering operator under the provisions of this  
2 Chapter.

3 (b) "Fixed odds wagering on horse races" means the acceptance of sports  
4 wagers on a sports event of a live or simulcast horse race with predetermined odds.  
5 Fixed odds wagering on horse races shall only occur in strict compliance with R.S.  
6 27:612. The wager may be combined with other sports wagers on other sporting  
7 events as authorized by this Chapter.

8 \* \* \*

9 §86. Issuance of permit to conduct racehorse wagering

10 \* \* \*

11 E. Acceptance of fixed odds wagering on horse races shall only be conducted  
12 pursuant to R.S. 27:612.

13 \* \* \*

14 §205. Definitions

15 When used in this Chapter, the following terms have these meanings:

16 \* \* \*

17 (30)(a) "Racehorse wagering" means wagers placed on horse racing  
18 conducted under the pari-mutuel form of wagering at licensed racing facilities that  
19 are accepted by a licensed racehorse wagering operator in accordance with the  
20 provisions of this Chapter.

21 (b) "Fixed odds wagering on horse races" means the acceptance of sports  
22 wagers on a sports event of a live or simulcast horse race with predetermined odds.  
23 Fixed odds wagering on horse races shall only occur in strict compliance with R.S.  
24 27:612. The wager may be combined with other sports wagers on other sporting  
25 events as authorized by this Chapter.

26 \* \* \*

27 §249.1. Issuance of permit to conduct racehorse wagering

28 \* \* \*

29 E. Acceptance of fixed odds wagering on horse races shall only be conducted  
30 pursuant to R.S. 27:612.

31 \* \* \*

1 §602. Definitions

2 For purposes of this Chapter, the following terms ~~shall~~ have the following  
3 meanings ascribed to them unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

4 \* \* \*

5 (19)(a) "Racehorse wagering" means wagers placed on horse racing  
6 conducted under the pari-mutuel form of wagering that are accepted by an offtrack  
7 wagering facility licensee as defined in R.S. 4:211 in accordance with the provisions  
8 of Chapter 4 of Title 4 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and a board and  
9 Louisiana State Racing Commission approved agreement between the licensee and  
10 the offtrack wagering facility licensee or a board and Louisiana State Racing  
11 Commission approved plan of operation.

12 (b) "Fixed odds wagering on horse races" means the acceptance of sports  
13 wagers on a sports event of a live or simulcast horse race with predetermined odds.  
14 Fixed odds wagering on horse races shall only occur in strict compliance with R.S.  
15 27:612. The wager may be combined with other sports wagers on other sporting  
16 events as authorized by this Chapter.

17 \* \* \*

18 (22)(a) "Sports event" means any professional sport or athletic event, any  
19 collegiate sport or athletic event, any amateur sport or athletic event, any Olympic  
20 or international sports competition event, any competitive video game or other  
21 electronic sports event, or any other special event or competition of relative skill as  
22 authorized by the board to be a sports event for purposes of this Chapter.

23 (b) A "sports event" may include racing as defined in R.S. 4:143 and subject  
24 to the requirements set forth in R.S. 27:612.

25 (c) "Sports event" shall not include high school sports, youth events, any  
26 international sports events where the majority of the participants are under the age  
27 of eighteen years, fantasy sports contests as provided in Chapter 6 of this Title, and  
28 any event prohibited by law.

29 \* \* \*

1 §603. Gaming Control Board; state police; duties and powers

2 A.

3 \* \* \*

4 (2)(a) In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, the board shall:

5 \* \* \*

6 (xvii) Establish guidelines for the acceptance of fixed odds horse race wagers  
7 pursuant to R.S. 27:612.

8 \* \* \*

9 §608. Limitations on wagering

10 \* \* \*

11 B.

12 \* \* \*

13 (3) An operator shall not knowingly accept a wager from a person who is a  
14 jockey; horseman as defined in R.S. 4:143, including their employees; or a racing  
15 official as defined in R.S. 4:143 who is participating in the horse racing sports event  
16 on which the person is attempting to place the wager.

17 \* \* \*

18 §612. Fixed odds wagering on horse races

19 A. "Fixed odds wagering on horse races" means the acceptance of sports  
20 wagers on a sports event of a live or simulcast horse race with predetermined odds.

21 B. "Fixed odds wager on horse races" means a sum of money or  
22 representation of value risked by a player on an occurrence associated with a sports  
23 event involving race horses for which the outcome is uncertain. The term includes  
24 single-race bets, teaser bets, moneyline bets, in-race wagering, proposition bets,  
25 straight bets, and parlays.

26 (1) Net gaming proceeds from all fixed odds wagers on horse races, other  
27 than parlays, shall be allocated as provided in R.S. 27:625(G)(4)(a)(ii) and shall be  
28 credited to the Fixed Odds Horse Wagering Purse Supplement Fund established by  
29 R.S. 4:200.



