DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR INTRODUCTION

HOUSE BILL NO.

Pari-mutuel wagering highway fund.

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Interim Committee

A BILL

for

AN ACT relating to gaming; requiring pari-mutuel funds paid to the state to be deposited to the state highway fund; amending fees; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 11-25-201(b)(iii) and by creating a new paragraph (v) and (d) is amended to read:

11-25-201. Pari-mutuel permits; fees and reports; disposition of funds; enforcement of provisions.

(b) Every Wednesday following any pari-mutuel event, the permittee shall:

(iii) Pay an amount equal to one percent (1%) of the total amount wagered attributable to historic pari-mutuel events, shown by the report to the commission, to be transferred by the commission to the county and the city or town in which the permittee is located, in equal shares, or to the county alone if the permittee is not located within the boundaries of a city or town. The county, city or town receiving an amount under this paragraph may credit that amount to the state fair account upon a majority vote of the county's, city's or town's governing body; ~~and~~

(v) Pay an amount equal to one percent (1%) of the total amount wagered attributable to historic pari-mutuel events and simulcasting, shown by the report to the commission, to be credited to the state highway fund.

(d) All sums paid to the commission under this act except contributions from permittees to the breeder award fund, amounts paid under paragraphs (b)(iii) ~~and (iv)~~

through (v) of this section, and fines and penalties shall be credited to the pari-mutuel account which shall be used by the commission for the payment of all expenses incurred in enforcing this act. On a quarterly basis, the commission shall transfer amounts within the account in excess of one million five hundred thousand dollars ($1,500,000.00) to the state treasurer for credit to the legislative stabilization reserve account. All fines and penalties collected under this act shall be paid to the state treasurer and credited as provided in W.S. 8-1-109. The state treasurer shall pay out of the account all warrants drawn by the state auditor, upon vouchers issued and signed by the president, vice-president or executive secretary of the commission. The commission shall keep an accurate and true account of all funds received and all vouchers issued by the commission. All funds received and all vouchers issued by the commission shall be audited at least biennially by the director of the state department of audit or his designee and a copy of the audit shall be delivered within thirty (30) days after completion to the governor and the commission. The costs of the audit shall be borne by the commission. The members of the commission shall receive per diem and mileage as provided in W.S.

33-1-302(a)(vii), and compensation of fifty dollars ($50.00) for each day during which they are actually engaged in the discharge of their duties. The total expenses incurred by the commission shall not exceed the total amount in the pari-mutuel account.

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STAFF COMMENT

The Committee may wish to consider whether to provide a corresponding one percent (1%) decrease to the amount permittees may retain under subsection (c) to prevent the new one percent (1%) payment to the state highway fund from reducing amounts otherwise available to players.

(c) The permittee may retain an amount equal to eighteen and four-tenths percent (18.40%) of the total amount wagered attributable to historic pari-mutuel events and simulcasting shown by the report and nineteen and four-tenths percent (19.40%) of the total amount wagered attributable to all other pari-mutuel events shown by the report and may retain up to an additional five percent (5%) of the amount wagered on multiple or exotic wagers. The permittee shall retain the breakage on not more than ten cents ($.10) and retain unclaimed tickets not claimed within one (1) year following the event for the expenses of the race meet and purses and for the promotion of the racing industry.

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Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2027.

(END)