

2021 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 204

BY SENATOR CORTEZ

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

HORSE RACING. Provides for live racing dates and minimum number of races per day to be assigned by the Louisiana State Racing Commission. (7/1/21)

1 AN ACT  
2 To amend and reenact R.S. 4:147(1) and 158(B)(2), relative to horse racing; to require the  
3 Louisiana State Racing Commission to assign dates for race meetings at a particular  
4 track; to require the commission to set the minimum number of races per day; to  
5 provide relative to the authority of the commission regarding applications for race  
6 meetings; and to provide for related matters.  
7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:  
8 Section 1. R.S. 4:147(1) and 158(B)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read  
9 as follows:  
10 §147. Specific duties of commission  
11 The commission shall carry out the provisions of this Part, including the  
12 following specific duties:  
13 (1)(a) To ~~set~~ **assign** the dates ~~during which any~~ race meetings may be  
14 conducted in this state **at a particular track**, including dates which limit racing at  
15 **a particular tracks track** for quarter horses only, provided that:  
16 ~~(a)(i)~~ It shall prohibit the conducting of any thoroughbred race meetings  
17 having the same or overlapping dates for such race meetings at thoroughbred race

1 tracks within a radius of one hundred miles of each other; and

2 ~~(b)(ii)~~ It shall prohibit the conducting of any exclusively quarter horse race  
3 meetings having the same or overlapping dates for such race meetings at any other  
4 exclusively quarter horse track within a radius of one hundred miles of each other.  
5 ~~However, nothing herein shall prevent presently licensed and existing tracks from~~  
6 ~~conducting quarter horse races with any exclusive quarter horse track having the~~  
7 ~~same or overlapping dates for race meetings.~~

8 **(b) To set the minimum number of live races required per race day at**  
9 **a particular track.**

10 \* \* \*

11 §158. License to operate a horse racing track; license to conduct race meetings

12 \* \* \*

13 B.

14 \* \* \*

15 (2)(a) On or before the first of May and the first of September of each year,  
16 after receipt of the applications the commission shall convene to consider ~~the refusal~~  
17 ~~or granting of any licenses to conduct race meetings applied for.~~ **The commission**  
18 **shall assign dates for all race meetings in the state at each track and license in**  
19 **accordance therewith and shall set the minimum number of live races required**  
20 **per race day.**

21 **(b) The commission may deny an application, or any included race**  
22 **dates, or assign different dates than that included in the application for any**  
23 **reason that it considers sufficient.**

24 \* \* \*

25 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2021, and shall apply to race  
26 meetings held on and after October 1, 2021.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Dawn Romero Watson.

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SB 204 Original	DIGEST 2021 Regular Session	Cortez
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Present law provides that the Louisiana State Racing Commission (LSRC) has the specific duty to set the dates during which any race meetings may be conducted in Louisiana, including dates which limit racing at particular tracks to quarter horses only.

Present law provides that on or before May first and Sept. first, after receipt of applications from the various licensed racing associations, LSRC shall convene to consider the refusal or granting of licenses to conduct the race meetings applied for.

Proposed law retains the application process for licensed race meetings, but provides that LSRC shall assign dates for all race meetings at each track and license in accordance therewith and shall set a minimum number of live races per race day. Authorizes LSRC to deny an application, or any included race dates, or assign dates different than that included in the application for any reason that it considers sufficient.

Effective July 1, 2021, and applicable to race meetings held on and after October 1, 2021.

(Amends R.S. 4:147(1) and 158(B)(2))