SLS 21RS-25

ENGROSSED

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	$\underline{\mathbf{a}}$ 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

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Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

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	<u>a particular track.</u>
10	* * *
11	§158. License to operate a horse racing track; license to conduct race meetings
12	* * *
13	В.
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 amend 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, including but not limited to the following:
24	(i) Reducing and adding to the number of race days specified in the
25	application by up to ten percent.
26	(ii) Making every effort to reduce conflicting or overlapping live race
27	meeting dates for the tracks in this state.
28	* * *
29	Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2021, and shall apply to race

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meetings held on and after October 1, 2021.

The original instrument was prepared by Dawn Romero Watson. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Alan Miller.

DIGEST

SB 204 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Cortez

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 amend an application, or any included race dates, or assign dates different than that included in the application for any reason that it considers sufficient, including but not limited to the following:

- (1)Reducing and adding to the number of race days specified in the application by up to ten percent.
- (2)Making every effort to reduce conflicting or overlapping live race meeting dates for the tracks in this state.

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))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original bill

1. Changes the board's authority regarding the application from authority to set dates to authority to amend application in limited ways.