

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2023
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB542

Hearing Date: Monday March 06, 2023
Committee On: General Affairs
Introducer: Lowe
One Liner: Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Racetrack Gaming Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Brewer, Cavanaugh, J., Day, Hardin, Holdcroft, Hughes, Lowe
Nay:		
Absent:	1	Senator Raybould
Present Not Voting:		

Testimony:

Proponents:

John Lowe
Lynne McNally

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Horsemen's Protective Association

Opponents:

Loretta Fairchild

Representing:

Self

Neutral:

Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Bill Summary: LB 542 was originally brought as a shell bill as recommended by Speaker Arch. It is replaced by a white copy amendment, AM 516. This amendment adds new language to the racing statutes and the gaming statutes to clarify that an employee hired under either licensee can be employed to accept both parimutuel wagers and sports wagers within the designated sports wagering area within a casino.

Section-by-Section Summary:

Section 1: amends section 2-1205 by adding new language at the end of subsection (1) to clarify that no licensee will be considered in violation of this section with respect to an agreement with an authorized gaming operator regarding employees and the acceptance of any parimutuel wager or sports wager pursuant to section 9-1110.

Section 2: amends section 9-1110 by adding new language to subsection (1) that states an individual employed and authorized to accept a sports wager is also permitted to accept parimutuel wagers.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 516 amends section 2-1205 with new language which allows a horseracing license holder to enter into an agreement

with an authorized gaming operator with respect to employees and the acceptance of parimutuel wagers and sports wagers.

AM 516 also amends section 9-1110 to include new language that authorizes an individual who is employed to accept a sports wager to also accept a parimutuel wager.

The casinos and racetracks exist together within the licensed racetrack enclosure, but each entity is licensed separately. Currently, the racetrack employs people to take parimutuel wagers on the horse races. When sports wagering becomes operational, individuals will be employed under the casino operator's license to take sports wagers. This bill is intended to make it clear in statute that an employee hired by either licensed entity can take either form of wager, as both sports wagers and parimutuel wagers can be made in the sports wagering area within the casino.

John Lowe, Chairperson