

**HB 5036**

**Racing Commission**

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HB 5036 is the budget bill for the Oregon Racing Commission. The term “pari mutuel” is French, and translates literally to “mutual stake”. The term as used in racing refers to like bets being placed together in a pool, whereby the winners receive a percentage of the total amount bet in proportion to their wagers, after taxes and fees for management.

The Racing Commission regulates all aspects of the pari-mutuel industry in Oregon. The Commission oversees horse racing at Portland Meadows Racetrack and at five county fair race sites. The Commission also regulates off-site simulcast races and Multi-jurisdictional Advance Deposit Wagering Hubs. Regulatory activities include licensing, inspections, and investigations of irregularities, with the goals of ensuring the integrity of the sport; ensuring safety for the participants, equine athletes and the public; and promoting horse racing in Oregon.

The Subcommittee recommends a budget of \$6,443,325 Other Funds and 14 positions (12.27 FTE) for the Racing Commission. This recommendation equates to the Current Service Level for the agency, and anticipates an ending balance equivalent to two months of operating expenditures, including special payments. The Subcommittee recommends adoption of key performance measures and targets as presented, with direction to provide specific additional narrative detail related to animal safety effort to provide context and additional transparency.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends HB 5036 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.