SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Racing Commission 2019-21 Commercial Race Meets and Agency Operations Report

On February 4th, the Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommended acknowledging receipt of a report from the Oregon Racing Commission on the status of commercial race meets and agency resource needs for the remainder of the 2019-21 biennium.

The agency was directed to report and provide updates on its projected revenue, expenditures, and participation levels in light of the closure of Portland Meadows as the site of the state's then only commercial race meet. A partial budget was approved, pending receipt of this information.

The Racing Commission reports that a new site for commercial race meets was identified, investments were made, and races were run in 2019 at a new venue in Grants Pass. The number of future commercial racing days is anticipated to decrease slightly from what was run at Portland Meadows, and will be spread throughout the late spring to early fall. Staffing needs will decline in response the differences in the calendar and change in venue. The Commission worked with the Legislative Fiscal Office and the DAS Chief Financial Office to arrive at an estimate of an additional \$2.37 million and 4.25 FTE in Other Funds expenditure limitation for the remainder of the biennium, which will provide for an ending balance equivalent to two months of operating expenditures.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends approval.