

**SB 856 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Taylor

**Senate Committee On Labor and Business**

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**Action Date:** 02/25/25

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 4-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 4 - Bonham, Hayden, Pham, Taylor

**Exc:** 1 - Woods

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Whitney Perez, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/4, 2/25

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure permits officers or employees of the Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) to place a bet or wager on a race meet held under the supervision of the ORC in the course of carrying out official auditing duties. Makes conforming amendments.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Auditing function of the Oregon Racing Commission (ORC)
- Regulation of online wagering companies
- Purpose of permitting certain employees of ORC to place bets or wagers

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Racing Commission (ORC) consists of five members and is responsible for licensing, regulating, and supervising all race meets held in Oregon. The ORC is also required to have the various places where race meets are held to be visited and inspected at least one each fiscal year. A "race meet" is defined as any exhibition of animal racing where the mutual system is used in conjunction with any race. According to a 2023 report by the Oregon Audits Division of the Oregon Secretary of State, the ORC has broad authority over animal racing and wagering in Oregon, which includes live, simulcast, and historical races.

Senate Bill 856 A permits officers or employees of the Oregon Racing Commission to place a bet or wager on a race meet held under the supervision of the ORC in the course of carrying out official auditing duties.