Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Government Accountability & Oversight Committee

HB 1442

Brief Description: Providing increased access to parimutuel satellite locations in counties with a population exceeding one million.

Sponsors: Representatives Schmick, Cody, Hunt, Condotta, Blake and Sullivan.

Brief Summary of Bill

 Authorizes the Washington Horse Racing Commission to approve a maximum of two satellite locations where paramutuel wagering may occur in those counties with populations exceeding one million.

Hearing Date: 2/5/13

Staff: Thamas Osborn (786-7129).

Background:

The Washington Horse Racing Commission (Commission) is responsible for regulating horse racing in Washington. The Commission's regulatory authority includes the licensing of horse racing associations, racing facilities, and the employees who participate in horse racing. It determines the place, time, and duration of race meets and is responsible for their supervision.

A class 1 racing association is one that owns and operates its own race facility and offers at least 40 race days a year.

The Commission may permit only class 1 licensees to conduct parimutuel wagering at satellite locations. To participate, the class 1 licensee must have conducted at least one full live racing season and must hold a live race meet within each succeeding 12-month period to maintain eligibility. Only one satellite location may be approved in each county and it may not be

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operated within twenty driving miles of any class 1 racing facility. The Commission may authorize more than one licensee to conduct wagering at each satellite location.

Summary of Bill:

In counties whose populations exceed one million, the Commission may approve a maximum of two satellite locations where paramutuel wagering may occur.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.