



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 37

February Session, 2012

Substitute House Bill No. 5095

House of Representatives, March 19, 2012

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. DARGAN of the 115th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING OFF-TRACK BETTING BRANCH FACILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 12-571a of the 2012 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

4 (a) The Department of Consumer Protection and the Gaming Policy
5 Board shall not operate or authorize the operation of more than
6 eighteen off-track betting branch facilities, except that the department
7 and the board may operate or authorize the operation of any off-track
8 betting branch facility approved prior to December 31, 1986, by the
9 legislative body of a municipality in accordance with subsection (a) of
10 section 12-572. Any facility approved prior to December 31, 1986, shall
11 be included within the eighteen facilities authorized by this subsection.

12 (b) The eighteen off-track betting branch facilities authorized by
13 subsection (a) of this section may include [fifteen] facilities which have

14 screens for the simulcasting of off-track betting race programs or jai
 15 alai games and other amenities including, but not limited to,
 16 restaurants and concessions, [provided, on and after June 21, 2010, the
 17 fifteen facilities that have simulcasting] and, on and after the effective
 18 date of this section, shall be located in the town and city of New
 19 Haven, the town of Windsor Locks, the town of East Haven, the town
 20 and city of Norwalk, the town and city of Hartford, the town and city
 21 of New Britain, the town and city of Bristol, the town and city of
 22 Torrington, the town and city of Waterbury, the town and city of
 23 Milford, the town and city of New London, the town of Manchester,
 24 the town of Windham, the town of Putnam, [and in] the town and city
 25 of Bridgeport and three additional locations. The location of each such
 26 facility and the addition of simulcasting capability to any existing off-
 27 track betting branch facility that did not previously have such
 28 capability (1) shall be approved by the commissioner with the consent
 29 of the Gaming Policy Board, and (2) shall be subject to the prior
 30 approval of the legislative body of the town in which such facility is
 31 located or is proposed to be located. The department shall report
 32 annually to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
 33 having cognizance of matters relating to legalized gambling on the
 34 status of the establishment or improvement of the off-track betting
 35 branch facility pursuant to this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2012	12-571a

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Technical changes were made for clarity.

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 13 \$	FY 14 \$
Spec. Revenue, Div. of	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	555,000	740,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 13 \$	FY 14 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Revenue Gain	508,500	678,000

Explanation

The bill increases, from 15 to 18, the number of off-track betting (OTB) facilities authorized to simulcast. To the extent that these additional simulcasting facilities are established, there is an annualized state revenue gain of up to \$740,000 and an annualized municipal revenue gain of up to \$678,000.

There are currently 15 simulcasting facilities in the state, each of which generates an average of \$246,600 and \$225,800 annually in General Fund and municipal revenue, respectively. The municipal revenue gain accrues to the municipality hosting the OTB facility.

The Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) provides OTB oversight through the Gaming Division. There is no fiscal impact to DCP as the bill does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the agency.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would

continue into the future subject to inflation.

Sources: *Department of Consumer Protection Gaming Division, "General Fund Transfers"*
Department of Consumer Protection Gaming Division, "Summary of Grants to Municipalities for Off-Track Betting and Parimutuels"

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5095*****AN ACT CONCERNING OFF-TRACK BETTING BRANCH FACILITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases the number of off-track betting (OTB) facilities that may operate as simulcasting facilities (i.e., televise OTB programs), from 15 to all 18 of the currently authorized OTB facilities.

The law specifies the location of the 15 existing simulcasting facilities as follows: Bridgeport, Bristol, East Haven, Hartford, Manchester, Milford, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Putnam, Torrington, Waterbury, Windham, and Windsor Locks. The bill does not specify the location of the three additional facilities.

The bill also makes a technical change.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012

BACKGROUND***OTB Facilities***

By law, the location of OTB facilities and the addition of simulcasting capability are subject to approval by the Department of Consumer Protection commissioner and Gaming Policy Board and the host town's prior approval.

By law, simulcasting facilities are OTB facilities authorized to (1) provide live television coverage of OTB programs and jai alai games and (2) have restaurants, concessions, and other amenities. Other OTB facilities have bench seating, public restrooms for patrons, and

monitors for OTB information.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 21 Nay 0 (03/01/2012)