



OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

State Budget Office

One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5890

Office: (401) 222-6300

State Fiscal Note for Bill Number:

2026-H 8217

Date of State Budget Office Approval: Thursday, April 9, 2026

Date Requested: Thursday, March 19, 2026

Date Due: Sunday, March 29, 2026

<i>Impact on Expenditures</i>		<i>Impact on Revenues</i>	
FY 2026	\$0	FY 2026	\$0
FY 2027	\$0	FY 2027	(\$123,430)
FY 2028	\$0	FY 2028	(\$241,711)

Explanation by State Budget Office:

This bill would amend R.I. Gen. Laws § 41-3.1-3 titled "Regulation of operations" in the chapter of the general laws that deals with dog racing. It would prohibit wagering on greyhound or other dog racing, effective January 1, 2027.

Summary of Facts and Assumptions:

The bill would be effective upon passage, with an implementation date of January 1, 2027.

In 2010, the General Assembly prohibited dog racing in the state. Licensed entities were allowed to continue to accept pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast races. Those wagers are taxed under R.I. Gen. Laws § 41-11-3, which establishes a 4% tax on wagers involving one or two animals, and a 5.5% tax on wagers involving three or more animals (such as trifectas). The November 2025 Revenue Estimating Conference estimated simulcast tax revenue of \$700,000 in FY 2026 and FY 2027.

The Department of Business Regulation (DBR) oversees simulcast operations as part of licensing the state's casinos. The Department of Revenue, Division of Taxation collects simulcast tax payments. Data from DBR indicates that over the last five calendar years (2021-2025), wagers on dog races made up 34.5% of total simulcast wagers (with the other share from wagers on horse races).

The Office of Revenue Analysis (ORA) applied this 34.5% ratio to the total estimate of simulcast revenue in FY 2027 to yield \$241,711 of wagers associated with dog racing. ORA then adjusted that to reflect the January 1, 2027 start date by analyzing the share of simulcast revenue received after January in an average fiscal year. This yields a revenue loss estimate of \$123,430 in FY 2027. The five-year forecast of simulcast revenue from the FY 2027 Governor's recommended budget financial projection assumes simulcast revenue is stable, yielding a consistent revenue loss of \$241,711 in the outyears.

There is also a de minimis amount of revenue loss from the DBR fee and other revenue associated with simulcast wagering on dog races.

Comments on Sources of Funds:

Racing and athletics wagering is general revenue.



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Summary of Fiscal Impact:

FY 2026: Not applicable due to the effective date of January 1, 2027.

FY 2027: A reduction in simulcast revenue of \$123,430.

FY 2028: A reduction in simulcast revenue of \$241,711.

Budget Office Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joseph Codega".

Digitally signed by Joseph
Codega
Date: 2026.04.09 13:47:10
-04'00'

Fiscal Advisor Signature: _____

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.