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**SF 526** – Gaming Referendum and Other Provisions (LSB 2322SZ)  
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Fiscal Note Version – New

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**Description**

**Senate File 526** makes various changes related to pari-mutuel wagering in Iowa including:

- Requiring the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission (IRGC) to adopt standards for the length of the thoroughbred and quarter horse racing season and regulation of purse structures.
- Permitting advanced deposit wagering at the pari-mutuel licensee of the racetrack in Polk County (Prairie Meadows). The Bill requires 50.0% of the revenue from advanced deposit wagering to be distributed to race purses and the other 50.0% to be directed to the licensee for pari-mutuel horsetrack.
- Eliminating continuing requirement that county referenda be conducted to approve the licensing of gambling games at existing structures. If a simple majority of voters in two successive elections approve gaming, then future referendums will not be required unless a valid petition of voters is filed specified in Iowa Code Section 331.306.
- Requiring the IRGC to prepare and submit a report regarding the creation of a framework for the State regulation of intrastate poker to the General Assembly by December 1, 2011.

**Background**

Advanced deposit wagering allows individuals to deposit money in an account and use the balance for pari-mutuel gaming. An advanced deposit wager could be placed from a licensed horsetrack, phone, or other electronic means.

**Assumptions**

- The IRGC may require additional staff to regulate and audit the advanced deposit wagering licensees.

**Fiscal Impact**

- The fiscal impact is expected to be minimal. The cost of additional staff to regulate advanced deposit wagering will be paid for by fees charged to the gaming industry and will not require General Fund dollars.
- The permitting of advanced deposit wagering for pari-mutuel license would have no effect on revenue to the State because Prairie Meadows is not taxed on pari-mutuel racing.
- The report required of the IRGC will not require outside consultation and could be done with existing staff within the commission, but the cost is currently unknown.

**Sources**

Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission  
Legislative Services Agency

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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April 20, 2011

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the correctional and minority impact statements were prepared pursuant to Code [Section 2.56](#). Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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