



**State of Arkansas
Department of Finance and Administration
Fiscal Impact Statement**

Bill: HJR1019

Bill Subtitle: AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO REMOVE REFERENCES TO GREYHOUND RACING FROM ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENT 100.

Sponsor:

Rep. Meeks

Basic Change:

HJR1019 proposes an amendment to the Arkansas Constitution to remove all references to greyhound racing.

Amendment 100, the Arkansas Casino Gaming Amendment of 2018, currently provides that:

- A greyhound racing facility in Crittenden County as of December 31, 2017 may conduct casino gaming at its facility;
- Each Arkansas casino must pay an annual net casino gaming receipts tax equal to 13% of the first \$150,000,000 of gaming receipts and 20% on gaming receipts exceeding \$150,000,001.
- 17.5% of the net casino gaming receipts taxes collected by the state are distributed to the horse racing franchise holder and the greyhound racing franchise holder to be used for racing purses.
- The greyhound racing franchise holder must set aside 14% of its net casino gaming receipts to be used for purses and capital improvements at its facility; and
- The greyhound racing facility must pay 1% of its net casino gaming receipts to the Arkansas Racing Commission to pay breeders' awards.

If approved by the voters, the amendments to the Arkansas Constitution would be effective on and after January 1, 2027.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Taxpayer Impact:

None. Greyhound racing is currently no longer practiced in Arkansas or at any of Arkansas's permitted casinos.

Resources Required:

None.

Time Required:

None.



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Procedural Changes:

None.

Other Comments:

None.

Legal Analysis:

If the proposed amendment is successful, corresponding updates may be required to § 23-113-101 et seq.

HJR1019 may also benefit from an amendment to delete the strikethrough of the words "operating a franchise to conduct horse racing" on page 4, lines 10-11. The term "franchise holder" in § 2 of Amendment 100 is not amended by HJR1019 and includes greyhound racing facilities as of December 31, 2017. Accordingly, the casino at Crittenden County is still a "franchise holder" as that term is defined in Amendment 100 and the proposed change would require the Crittenden County casino to pay 1% of its net casino gaming receipts to the Racing Commission to be used for purse supplements and breeder awards for horse racing. This appears to be an unintended consequence.