
IDAHO VOTERS' PAMPHLET

Published by Lawrence Denney, Idaho Secretary of State



GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday ★ November 6, 2018

ELECTION DAY VOTING FROM 8 A.M. - 8 P.M.

Last Day for Voter Pre-Registration

Friday, October 12

Last Day to Request an Absentee Ballot

Friday, October 26

- Proposition One: Historical Horse Racing
- Proposition Two: Medicaid Eligibility Expansion
- Voter and County Clerk Contact Information

VOTER INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION » IdahoVotes.gov



PROPOSITION



HISTORICAL HORSE RACING

AN INITIATIVE AUTHORIZING HISTORICAL HORSE RACING AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS WHERE LIVE OR SIMULCAST HORSE RACING OCCURS AND ALLOCATING REVENUE THEREFROM.

An initiative amending Chapter 25, Title 54, Idaho Code; contains findings and purposes; amends definition of historical horse race; adds new section authorizing historical horse race betting at certain locations where live or simulcast parimutuel horse race betting occurs; specifies requirements for historical horse race terminals; declares such terminals not to be slot machines; allocates revenue from historical horse race betting; requires licensees to enter into agreements with horsemen's groups; creates historical horse race purse moneys fund in state treasury; authorizes distribution by state racing commission and investment by state treasurer of fund monies; directs state racing commission to promulgate implementing rules; declares act effective upon voter approval and completion of voting canvass; and provides for severability.

WHAT YOUR VOTE WILL DO

YES

A **YES** vote would approve the proposed law to allow historical horse racing in Idaho.

NO

A **NO** vote would make no change to Idaho's current law.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION ONE

VOTING **"YES"** ON PROPOSITION 1 RESTORES LIVE HORSE RACING, CREATES JOBS, AND FUNDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Restoring Horse Racing

Voting **"YES"** on Proposition 1 restores live racing at horse tracks by keeping purses competitive, which in turn revives jobs, funds public schools, and supports local community and youth programs associated with horse breeding, training, and racing.

Voting **"YES"** on Proposition 1 removes artificial, political, and government barriers so that Idaho's traditional horse racing industry can stand on its own two feet, without government support.

Returning Prosperity

Voting **"YES"** on Proposition 1 will revive jobs; restore family farms; revitalize local communities and schools; and enable breeders, trainers, local feed stores, vendors and community programs to return to rural Idaho, which was hit especially hard when historical horse racing was banned.

Voting **"YES"** on Proposition 1 creates jobs, spurs economic activity, and puts millions of dollars into public schools across our state for years to come.

Righting a Political Wrong

Voting **"YES"** on Proposition 1 bypasses the politicians and lets the people of Idaho uphold our shared values and traditions while limiting government and political interference.

Voting **"YES"** on Proposition 1 reassures those who work in or otherwise support the horse industry in Idaho that the government will stay out of their business, allowing live racing to thrive as it once did.

Repealing a Monopoly

Insider political meddling effectively killed live horse racing in Idaho. The result of banning historical horse racing in 2015 was a government-created gaming monopoly for non-taxpaying casinos. The casino monopoly's political antics has had the effect of shutting down Idaho's traditional horse racing industry, limiting competition in the free market.

Voting **"YES"** on Proposition 1 removes the monopoly that the casinos and the politicians created for themselves, thereby restoring revenue to horse racing purses and allowing a beloved activity in Idaho to thrive.

Legality and Limitations of Historical Horse Racing

Historical Horse Racing terminals are not slot machines and are legal under the Idaho Constitution.

Historical horse racing was permitted in Idaho when casino interests and their lobbyists played insider politics to shut it down in 2015.

In Idaho, live and historical horse racing are based on a pari-mutuel system, which is legal under the state's constitution. Unlike casino slots, pari-mutuel betting on horse racing ensures returns of more than 90% of wagers to the bettors, who compete against one another in a pool, rather than competing against "the house" or casino operators.

Betting on historical horse racing would only be allowed at select locations, where live racing is conducted at least eight (8) days per year or where simulcast horse racing is authorized. Live and simulcast racing sites are only permitted where they have been approved

by local county commissioners and the Idaho State Racing Commission.

Voting **"YES"** on Proposition 1 ensures strict regulations and accountability, full transparency, and rigorous audits of horse racing operations.

VOTING **"YES"** ON PROPOSITION 1 RESTORES LIVE HORSE RACING, CREATES JOBS AND FUNDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION ONE

Vote **"NO"** on Deceptively Promoted 365-Day/Year Slot Machine Casinos

- Idaho legislators allowed betting on old race videos, but instead tracks installed unconstitutional slot machine imitations: gamblers bet up to 720 times per hour, a speed at which they neither analyzed horses nor watched races. Upset at being "duped," legislators banned the machines, honoring their oath to defend Idaho's constitution.
- Petition signers were shocked to learn their signatures to "save horse racing" included legalizing year-round slot machine casinos. Promoters left that part out.
- These machines clearly imitate slot machines. See for yourself at: <https://youtu.be/8oPlxLfDroo>
- Contrary to their free-market claims, the casino promoters seek direct government intervention to prop up their failed business model with an unconstitutional activity unavailable to any other Idaho business.

Vote **"NO"** on Promoters' Empty Claims

- Slots kill jobs. Rapid-bet gambling machines resulted in 600 fewer jobs overall in one state.
- Education gets peanuts while the four wealthy Idahoans behind the campaign line their pockets.
- Idaho communities won't "revitalize" when, for example, gambling-related homelessness jumps to 35 percent of cases, as it has elsewhere.
- Idaho "shared values" do not include exploiting thousands of gambling addicts who lose their paychecks, Social Security checks, and homes; who steal from friends and family; and who embezzle from and bankrupt their employers.

Vote **"NO"** on Proposition One to prevent year-round unconstitutional slot machine casinos in Idaho

Please share this information with your friends. Please vote **"NO"** on Proposition One.

ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION ONE

This Proposal Will Legalize Slot Machines in Idaho

- Historic horse racing offers a full slot machine experience, by design.
- "They look like slot machines because they are supposed to look like slot machines," admitted promoter Frank Lamb.

- Like all rapid-bet electronic gambling devices (commonly called slot machines), the proposed terminals allow gamblers to punch a button to bet once every five seconds, 12 bets/minute, 720 bets/hour. Gamblers sit in rows in windowless rooms, each gambler separately triggering his or her own large spinning-reel video screen. Gamblers universally ignore the complicated racing features and tiny race videos.

Imitating Slot Machines is Unconstitutional in Idaho

- Read it for yourself: Subsection (1) Section 20 of Article III of the Idaho Constitution permits pari-mutuel betting, but Subsection (2) specifically says, "*No activities permitted by subsection (1) shall employ any form of casino gambling including ... slot machines, or employ any electronic or electromechanical imitation or simulation of any form of casino gambling.*"
- Proponents want us to believe their machines will be constitutional because they are pari-mutuel, but the constitution says just the opposite: pari-mutuel gambling is legal *only* if it does *not* imitate slot machines or other casino gambling.

This Proposal Will Hurt Idaho Businesses and Cost Jobs

- "The operation of a casino in a mid-size city ... creates a measurable drain on the economy of the city," concluded a 2004 study of Iowa casinos. Money lost to these machines will come out of our own economy, hurting existing businesses.
- This proposal will support some low-wage, part-time, seasonal jobs, but research suggests that slot machines cause more job losses in an economy than they create.
- Racehorses make up only two percent of Idaho horses; claims that this proposal will have a significant impact on Idaho agriculture are difficult to believe.

The Collateral Damage is Grim: Addiction, Bankruptcy, Crime ...

- At least one-third of the money lost in rapid-bet gambling machines comes from addicted gamblers ("Why Casinos Matter").
- An Easter Seals CEO embezzled \$231,000 in Iowa. A fire chief killed himself after stealing \$150,000 in Illinois. Mass shooter and slot addict Stephen Paddock killed 58 and injured 851 in Las Vegas. Gambling addicts often leave children strapped in their car seats, sometimes to die.
- Putting rapid-bet gambling machines into the Treasure Valley will lead to addiction problems for at least 7,000 of our neighbors (American Gaming Association).

- In U.S. counties with casinos, bankruptcies are 18 percent higher (banking analyst SMR Research) and crime is 12.4 percent higher (University of Illinois).
- Ten percent of suicides in Alberta, Canada, are related to slot machines. Embezzlement rates spike up where casinos open.

A Slot Subsidy Won't Save Racing

- Slot machines were approved to "save" dog racing in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The money-losing races were shut down in 2015. The slot machines continue to operate.

Please share this information with your friends. Please vote "NO" on Proposition One.

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION ONE

Proposition 1 is about a simple, clear objective: Restoring Idaho's horse racing tradition and ensuring a sustainable industry without government support. A healthy, self-sustaining live racing industry means hundreds of jobs, continued economic prosperity, and millions of dollars for public schools.

Proposition 1 Will Not Legalize Slot Machines

In fact, Proposition 1 clearly defines that Historic Horse Racing (HHR) terminals are not slot machines and does nothing to change Idaho's prohibition on slot machines. HHR terminals operate as pari-mutuel wagering, which has been legal in Idaho for decades. Unlike slot machines, HHR wagers are pooled, with at least 90% being redistributed to bettors. Also unlike slot machines, HHR outcomes are not based on random number generation.

Proposition 1 Will Not Increase Crime or Addiction

During the 15-month period (2014-15) when HHR terminals were legal, there was no reported increase in crime or gambling addiction rates. Truth is, most HHR patrons are responsible players who simply love horse racing.

Moreover, Proposition 1 provides the same level of government accountability, scrutiny and transparency that Idahoans demanded years ago in approving a state lottery.

"Opponents of the Idaho Lottery threatened dire consequences, from gambling addiction to the influence of organized crime," said Governor Butch Otter. "I'm pleased to say none of this has come to pass and am confident Idaho's integrity will remain intact with the return of historic horse racing."

To learn more about Proposition 1 and saving our horse racing heritage, visit saveidahohorseracing.com. Vote YES on Proposition 1.