

## Del Pointe Del Pointe

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passed, I think that's where our focus should be," Viola said, Monday, June 22.

Viola is also chairman of the House Revenue & Finance Committee.

Viola said he favors House Substitute 1 for House Bill 100, a measure that has passed the House and Senate requiring a study proving that additional slots facilities would be in the best interest of taxpayers, the state and those who would be employed by the operations.

The study would have to be completed by Oct. 15, 2009.

Rep. Pete Schwartzkopf, Delaware Beach, is primary sponsor of House Bill 194. The measure would allow the holder of a valid Delaware harness racing license granted as of Sept. 1, 2008, the right to become a video lottery – slots – agent.

**Del Pointe** is the only entity that meets that requirement. The facility is planned for a parcel that has been annexed by the Town of Millsboro. The proposed one-mile harness racing track and casino would occupy a portion of a 300-acre site adjacent to Route 113 north of the town's center. **Del Pointe** developers say building and operating a harness-racing-only venue – without a slots casino – would be a money loser.

Developers also say that without the slots operation, **Del Pointe**'s proposed family oriented amenities such as a water park, indoor sports complex, paintball park, movie theaters and restaurants, wouldn't be economically feasible. If **Del Pointe** does become operational as a racino it would be Sussex County's first and the state's fourth. Delaware Park Racetrack and Slots operates a thoroughbred horse racetrack and casino in New Castle County and also owns Ocean Downs Racetrack, near Ocean City, Md.

Dover Downs Hotel & Casino and Harrington Raceway & Casino operate harness racing tracks in Kent County.