

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 542

2025 Regular Session

Jackson

GAMING: Provides for the allowable amount of promotional play offered by certain gaming operators and for deductions regarding promotional play

DIGEST

Riverboat Gaming Licensee

Present law, regarding riverboats, defines "net gaming proceeds" as the total of all cash and property received by the licensee from gaming operations, less the total of all cash paid out as winnings to patrons and \$5M annually that is directly attributable to promotional play.

Present law provides for license and franchise fees to be charged to all riverboat gaming licensees for the right to conduct gaming activities on a riverboat. Further provides for the fees to be a percentage of the net gaming proceeds.

Proposed law retains present law and authorizes a licensee to assign all or part of the amount of the allowable deduction directly to promotional play that is not claimed by the licensee for the same fiscal year to another licensee licensed pursuant to present law regarding the land-based casino or slot machines at racetracks. Provides that the assignment must be in writing and both the licensee assigning the deduction and the licensee to which the deduction is assigned are required to report the assignment to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.

Land-Based Casino Operations

Present law, regarding land-based casino operations, defines "gross revenue" as the total of all value received by the casino gaming operator from gaming operations, less the total of all value or amounts paid out as winnings to patrons and credit instruments or checks which are uncollected as determined by rule of the corporation and \$5M annually directly attributable to promotional play.

Present law provides that the casino operator must pay to the La. Gaming Control Board a minimum compensation of the greater of 18.5% of gross revenues or \$65M annually.

Proposed law retains present law and authorizes the casino operator to assign all or part of the amount of the allowable deduction directly to promotional play that is not claimed by the casino gaming operator for the same fiscal year to another licensee licensed pursuant to present law regarding the riverboats or slot machines at racetracks. Provides that the assignment must be in writing and both the casino gaming operator assigning the deduction and the licensee to which the deduction is assigned are required to report the assignment to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.

Pari-Mutuel Wagering Facilities/Slot Machines at Racetracks

Present law, regarding pari-mutuel wagering facilities (eligible facilities), defines "net slot machine proceeds" as the total of all cash and property received by a licensee from slot machine gaming operations minus the amount of cash or prizes paid to winners and \$5M annually directly attributable to promotional play. Present law further defines "taxable net slot machine proceeds" as the "net slot machine proceeds" less the amount of required in support, payment, or contributions to the horsemen (18%.)

Present law provides for an 18.5% license tax on taxable net slot machine proceeds.

Proposed law retains present law and authorizes a licensee to assign all or part of the amount of the allowable deduction directly to promotional play that is not claimed by the licensee for the same fiscal year to another licensee licensed pursuant to present law regarding the riverboats or land-based casino. Provides that the assignment must be in writing and both

the licensee assigning the deduction and the licensee to which the deduction is assigned are required to report the assignment to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.

(Amends R.S. 27:44(15), 205(16), and 353(9))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Within the present law (R.S. 27:353) definition of "net slot machine proceeds", add both the promotional play wagers and the percentage cap schedule contained in proposed law.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the engrossed bill

1. Change proposed law from providing for an increasing percentage cap on promotional play credit to authorizing the assignment of unused promotional play credits amongst riverboats, the land-based casino, and slots at racetracks.