

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 378 (HB 540)

2025 Regular Session

Fontenot

Prior law authorized a person who owned an establishment licensed for on-premise alcohol consumption to make available for play three video draw poker devices.

New law increases the number of video draw poker devices permitted at such alcoholic beverage establishments from three to four and provides criteria to qualify for additional video draw poker devices.

New law provides that to qualify for the placement of the fourth video draw poker device, the three video draw poker devices placed at the licensed establishment shall earn a combined gross device revenue of at least \$100,000 for the three consecutive months prior to the licensed device owner requesting a fourth device.

Prior law authorized a person who was the owner of more than one establishment permitted for on-premises alcohol consumption in a single building or structure, to make available for play not more than three video draw poker devices at each establishment, not to exceed a total of nine devices per single building or structure.

New law changes to provide that such a person may make available for play not more than four video draw poker devices at each establishment, not to exceed a total of 12 per single building or structure.

New law increases the number of video draw poker devices permitted at truck stops from 50 to 60.

New law increases the number of video draw poker devices permitted at hotels and motels from three to four for individual lounges and from 12 to 13 for the hotel or motel.

New law provides that offtrack wagering facilities shall not be granted a license to operate video draw poker devices within one mile of any property on the National Register of Historic Places, any public playground, any residential property, or a building used primarily as a church, synagogue, public library, or school.

New law provides for the designation of residential districts for the purposes of new law.

New law provides relative to franchise fee rates and appropriation for revenue generated by video draw poker devices.

New law provides for dedication of the first \$22M generated by franchise fees, above the amount generated in the 2024 fiscal year, to the Video Draw Poker Device Purse Supplement Subfund (subfund), established pursuant to new law. Further dedicates 15% of those revenues generated each fiscal year in excess of \$22M to the subfund.

New law requires revenue generated by new law and deposited into the subfund to be appropriated to the La. State Racing Commission within the office of the governor for allocation to various horse racing industry groups as provided in new law.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 20, 2025).

(Amends R.S. 27:412(B)(1) and (2), 413(A) and (B), 414(intro. para.), 416(A), (C)(2)(a)-(c) and (3)(b), 437(C)(intro. para.), (3), and (4), and 439(Section heading); Adds R.S. 27:415(C)-(G), 437(C)(5), and 439(C) and (D))