
DIGEST

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HB 245 Original

2018 Regular Session

Thibaut

Abstract: Authorizes the conducting of additional gaming activities and sports betting at eligible live horse racing facilities if approved by local option election.

Present law provides for the operation of slot machines at eligible live horse racing facilities.

Present law provides for operation of gaming activities at the official gaming establishment (land-based casino in Orleans Parish) and on licensed riverboats.

Proposed law retains these provisions of present law.

Proposed law authorizes the conducting of gaming activities at eligible live horse racing facilities.

Present law defines "game" for riverboats and the land-based casino as any banking or percentage game which is played with cards, dice, or any electronic, electrical, or mechanical device or machine for money, property, or any thing of value. "Game" does not include a lottery, bingo, pull tabs, raffles, electronic video bingo, cable television bingo, dog race wagering, or any wagering on any type of sports event, including but not limited to football, basketball, baseball, hockey, boxing, tennis, wrestling, jai alai, or other sports contest or event. Game shall also include racehorse wagering.

Proposed law defines "game" for an eligible horse racing facility as any banking or percentage game which is played with cards, dice, or any electronic, electrical, or mechanical device or machine for money, property, or any thing of value. "Game" shall also include racehorse wagering, or any wagering on any type of sports event, including but not limited to football, basketball, baseball, hockey, boxing, tennis, wrestling, jai alai, or other sports contest or event. "Game" shall not include a lottery, bingo, pull tabs, raffles, electronic video bingo, cable television bingo, or dog race wagering.

Proposed law allows eligible horse racing facilities to operate and conduct the same gaming activities conducted at the land-based casino and on licensed riverboats. Proposed law further amends the definition of "game" to include sports betting.

Proposed law provides for the conducting of a local option election in compliance with Article XII §6(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and prohibits the licensing of the additional gaming activities without a favorable vote of the people of the parish where the gaming will be conducted.

(Amends R.S. 27:353; Adds R.S. 27:372.2 and 382)