
 DIGEST

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SB 50 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Reese

Present law restricts certain persons from placing a wager on a sports event based on age, location, affiliation with an individual participant or team in the sports event, and other factors. Present law also provides for a uniform compulsive and problem gambling program that allows an individual to request their placement on a list to be excluded from gaming activities at all gaming establishments. In addition, gaming licensees, operators, and sports governing bodies typically have various restrictions on the placement of sports wagers by their employees, players, and members.

Proposed law creates the crime of a prohibited player placing a wager on a sports event, personally or through another individual or proxy. Provides that it shall also be a crime for a person or entity to facilitate or place a sports wager on behalf of a prohibited player.

Proposed law defines "prohibited player" as a person who is prohibited from placing a wager on a sports event by any of the following:

- (1) The sports wagering chapter in the La. Gaming Control Law or in the correlating La. Administrative Code.
- (2) Participation in a self-restriction or self-exclusion program in accordance with the La. Gaming Control Law or in the correlating La. Administrative Code.
- (3) Any other law, administrative rule, or policy of any jurisdiction, the sports wagering operator, the sports book, or a sports governing body.

Proposed law provides a criminal penalty for a violation of proposed law of a fine not more than \$500, or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both. Further provides that on a second and subsequent violation, the penalty shall be a fine of \$1,000, or imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than one year, or both.

Proposed law provides whoever conducts, finances, manages, supervises, directs, leases, or owns all or part of a business when the person knowingly allows a prohibited player to wager on a sports event shall be fined not more than \$20,000, or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than five years, or both.

Proposed law provides that a person, business, or entity licensed, or sports wagering operator permitted, pursuant to the sports wagering law shall not be subject to the penalty if the licensee or permittee has taken commercially reasonable methods to prevent a prohibited player from placing a wager on a sports event in person, on a sports wagering mechanism, or through a mobile application.

Proposed law provides that a sports wagering platform provider permitted by the Louisiana Lottery shall not be subject to the penalty if the permittee has taken commercially reasonable methods to prevent a prohibited player from placing a wager on a sports event on a sports wagering mechanism or through a mobile application.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 14:90.8)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Makes technical change.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Specify that the term of imprisonment for a second and subsequent violation of proposed law shall be with or without hard labor.