

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 639

BY REPRESENTATIVE RISER AND SENATOR CATHEY

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 27:625(B) and (G)(8) and to enact R.S. 17:1792 and R.S.
3 27:625(G)(9) and (10), relative to online sports wagering tax revenue and student
4 athletes; to provide for the tax rate on online sports wagering; to allocate online
5 sports wagering tax revenue; to create a fund for the benefit of university athletic
6 departments; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 27:625(B) and (G)(8) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
9 27:625(G)(9) and (10) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §625. State tax; levy

11 * * *

12 B. There is hereby levied a ~~fifteen~~ twenty-one and one-half percent tax upon
13 the net gaming proceeds from sports wagering offered to consumers within this state
14 pursuant to this Title electronically through a website or mobile application. The
15 provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to electronic sports wagering conducted
16 through a sports wagering mechanism.

17 * * *

18 G. After complying with the provisions of Subsection D of this Section, each
19 fiscal year the state treasurer shall credit the following amounts to the following
20 funds:

21 * * *

1 (8) ~~Any remaining funds shall be available as state general funds. Twenty-~~
2 five percent of the monies collected pursuant to Subsection B of this Section shall
3 be credited to the Supporting Programs, Opportunities, Resources, and Teams Fund
4 established by R.S. 17:1792.

5 (9) Three percent of the monies collected pursuant to Subsection B of this
6 Section shall be credited to the Louisiana Postsecondary Inclusive Education Fund
7 established by R.S. 17:3138.11.

8 (10) Any remaining funds shall be available as state general funds.

9 Section 2. R.S. 17:1792 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §1792. Supporting Programs, Opportunities, Resources, and Teams Fund

11 A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special fund to be known
12 as the Supporting Programs, Opportunities, Resources, and Teams Fund, hereafter
13 in this Section referred to as the "fund".

14 B. Monies in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in the same
15 manner as monies in the state general fund. Interest earned on the investment of
16 monies in the fund shall be deposited in and credited to the fund. Unexpended and
17 unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the
18 fund.

19 C. After compliance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the
20 Constitution of Louisiana relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, the
21 state treasurer shall deposit into the fund all monies dedicated, transferred, or
22 appropriated to the fund. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated to the Board of
23 Regents for distribution to athletic departments at public universities that are
24 members of conferences that compete in NCAA Division One athletics at the
25 Football Bowl Subdivision and Football Championship Subdivision levels in
26 Louisiana for the benefit of student athletes. For the purposes of this Section,
27 "benefit" means scholarships, insurance, medical coverage, facility enhancements,
28 litigation settlement fees, and Alston awards. Each university shall establish
29 eligibility criteria for benefits awarded pursuant to the provisions of this Section.

1 E. Monies from the fund shall not be used to displace, replace, or supplant
2 any other awards or scholarships.

3 F. The Board of Regents shall distribute funds received pursuant to the
4 provisions of this Section equally among eligible institutions. Each eligible
5 university athletic department shall receive an equal distribution of funds for use in
6 accordance with the provisions of this Section.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____