

Present law provides for the licensing and operation of video draw poker devices at qualified truck stop facilities and for the operation of restaurants at these facilities. Authorizes the owner or lessor of a qualified truck stop facility to close the restaurant during certain specified legal holidays.

Proposed law would have retained present law but would have excluded the owner or lessor of facilities in Orleans Parish from this authority to close on legal holidays.

Would have become effective August 1, 2012.

(Proposed to amend R.S. 27:306(A)(5)(d))

**VETO MESSAGE:** "Senate Bill No. 362 by Senator Morrell would allow truck stop facilities to close their restaurants more often than currently permitted, while still allowing them to operate their video poker devices.

Current law requires qualified truck stop facilities to meet certain standards and maintain certain amenities in order to have video poker devices on their premises. I am concerned that this bill would weaken these existing safeguards found in current law.

For this reason, I have vetoed Senate Bill No. 362 and hereby return it to the Senate."