Proposed law authorizes the governing authority of Natchitoches Parish to conduct an election to allow video draw poker devices within the parish. The governing authority of the parish shall pay the cost of the election.

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law authorizes a parish-wide local election. According to the Secretary of State’s Office, local costs could be approximately $64,000 (approximately $1,280 per precinct x 50 precincts), if held solely as a local election. If the election were included in the Congressional election in December 2022, the costs would decrease to approximately $16,000, according to the Secretary of State’s Office.

If an election is held and devices are approved by the electorate, devices would have to be connected to the State Police system that manages all other video poker devices in the state. State Police costs are not expected to be material.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

Video poker gaming was last authorized in Natchitoches Parish in FY 99. Proposed law contemplates such gaming in the parish and, assuming an election is held and approval is received by a majority of the electors, devices could likely by operational sometime during FY 23. The amount of activity that could occur within the parish is speculative. Based on activity occurring within the parish, 25% of net gaming tax receipts attributable to that activity would be distributed back to the local entities (parish government, sheriff, and municipal government). While a video poker option in the parish ultimately reallocates consumer spending from all other options, much of this activity is likely to be net new video poker activity since only two (De Soto & Red River) of the eight (8) contiguous parishes currently allow video poker devices. From the perspective, both local government and state government (state general fund and dedicated funds) are likely to receive additional gaming tax revenue.