

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 235

BY SENATOR HENSGENS

GAMING. Provides relative to the regulation of sports wagering. (8/1/24)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 27:601(B) and 625(G)(7) and to enact R.S. 27:625(G)(8), relative to sports wagering; to provide regarding definitions, enforcement, licenses and permits, and wagering; to provide for requirements and regulations; to provide for revenue allocation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 27:601(B) and 625(G)(7) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 27:625(G)(8) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§601. Title and citation; privilege

\* \* \*

B. Any license, permit, approval, or thing obtained or issued **or renewed** pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter is expressly declared by the legislature to be a pure and absolute revocable privilege and not a right, property or otherwise, under the constitution of the United States or of the state of Louisiana. Further, the legislature declares that no holder of any license or permit acquires any vested interest or right therein or thereunder.

\* \* \*

1 §625. State tax; levy

2 \* \* \*

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

6 \* \* \*

7 (7) **Two and one-half percent of the monies collected pursuant to this**  
8 **Section, not to exceed seven hundred fifty thousand dollars, shall be forwarded**  
9 **to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and distributed to the Louisiana**  
10 **Equine Promotion and Research Program in accordance with R.S. 3:2076 and**  
11 **2077.**

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

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

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DIGEST

SB 235 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Hensgens

Present law provides that any license, permit, approval, or thing obtained or issued pursuant to the provisions of present law is expressly declared by the legislature to be a pure and absolute revocable privilege and not a right, property or otherwise, under the U.S. or state constitution. Further provides that the legislature declares that no holder of any license or permit acquires any vested interest or right therein or thereunder.

Proposed law also adds the renewal of any license, permit, approval, or thing obtained or issued pursuant to present law to the declaration by the legislature that such items are a pure and absolute revocable privilege and not a right under law.

Present law dedicates revenue generated by the net gaming proceeds from sports wagering as follows:

- (1) 2%, or \$500,000, whichever is greater, to the Behavioral Health and Wellness Fund.
- (2) 25%, not to exceed \$20,000,000, to the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund.
- (3) 10% to the Sports Wagering Local Allocation Fund.
- (4) 2.5% credited to the Sports Wagering Purse Supplement Fund. Provides monies in the Sports Wagering Purse Supplement Fund shall only be withdrawn pursuant to the appropriation by the legislature and monies shall be appropriated to the Louisiana Racing Commission solely for the use and in proportion approved in accordance with present law.
- (5) 2%, not to exceed \$500,000, to the Disability Affairs Trust Fund.

(6) 3%, or \$500,000, whichever is greater, to the Compulsive and Problem Gaming Fund.

(7) 55.5% to the state general fund.

Proposed law dedicates 2.5%, not to exceed \$750,000, of revenue generated by the net gaming proceeds from sports wagering from the state general fund to the Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry and distributed to the La. Equine Promotion and Research Program.

Proposed law reduces the amount of revenue distributed to the state general fund in present law from 55.5% to 53%.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 27:601(B) and 625(G)(7); adds R.S. 27:625(G)(8))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Increases the maximum amount of monies distributed from revenue generated by net gaming proceeds for sports wagering to the La. Equine Promotion and Research Program from \$500,000 to \$750,000.