

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 182 (HB 883)

2026 Regular Session

Schlegel

Existing law prohibits gambling by computer and provides penalties for violations.

New law adds certain actions which constitute gambling by computer, including the offering of dual-currency games that simulate any form of gambling.

New law defines "merchant payment processor" and "platform provider".

New law increases the penalty for offering gambling games by computer from up to a \$20,000 fine and up to five years imprisonment with or without hard labor to up to a \$100,000 fine and up to five years imprisonment with or without hard labor.

New law prohibits certain entities, including merchant payment processors and platform providers, from supporting or facilitating another party who offers gambling by computer and provides a penalty of a fine up to \$20,000, up to five years imprisonment with or without hard labor, or both.

New law prohibits merchant payment processors from accepting or processing a transaction it believes to be in connection with gambling by computer and allows the processor to block the transaction on its own initiative.

New law prohibits platform providers from receiving or transmitting communications related to the crime of gambling by computer.

New law provides that each wager offered or accepted constitutes a separate violation of gambling by computer.

New law requires the court to order forfeiture of any profits made by gambling by computer.

New law authorizes the attorney general to send a cease and desist notice to anyone who operates, conducts, or promotes gambling by computer, including platform providers and merchant payment processors who allow the exchange of information regarding gambling by computer or financial transactions involved in gambling by computer.

New law requires the attorney general to maintain a list of each cease and desist notice sent pursuant to new law on the attorney general's website.

New law provides for the manner of service of the cease and desist notice.

New law states that a cease and desist notice found on the attorney general's website is prima facie evidence that anyone acting in support knew that gambling by computer was occurring.

New law further authorizes the attorney general to exercise his authority in furtherance of investigating gambling by computer and to utilize the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, office of state police, gaming enforcement division.

New law authorizes the attorney general to request a court to order a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, injunction, or ex parte injunction to prevent gambling by computer.

New law requires any relief granted pursuant to a court order to be limited to gambling by computer activity and to specify the website to which it applies.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 14:90.3(B), (C)(intro. para.), (1), (9), and (10), and (D)-(K); Adds R.S. 14:90.3(C)(11) and (12) and (L)-(R) and R.S. 27:19.1 and 19.2)