
DIGEST

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Martiny

HB No. 78

Abstract: Amends the definition of an eligible facility to provide for conducting less than 80 racing days in a consecutive 20-week period for force majeure.

Present law provides that for the purposes of slot machine gaming an "eligible facility" means no more than one facility in St. Landry Parish, Bossier Parish, Orleans Parish, and Calcasieu Parish at which the Louisiana State Racing Commission has licensed the conduct or at which the commission has approved the future licensing of the conduct of not less than 80 days within a consecutive 20-week period each year of live horse race meetings.

Proposed law retains the provisions of present law and further provides that if the Louisiana State Racing Commission approves the conducting of less than 80 days within a 20-week period or a different consecutive or nonconsecutive period, whenever an eligible facility is prevented from conducting live racing as a result of a natural disaster, an act of God, force majeure, a catastrophe, or such other occurrence over which the eligible facility has no control that facility is still within the definition of an "eligible facility".

Proposed law further provides that this determination by the commission shall not adversely affect the status of the eligible facility to conduct slot machine gaming.

Present law provides that nothing in present law provisions of slot machine gaming shall be construed to abrogate, limit, or affect in any way the powers granted to the commission.

Proposed law retains these provisions of present law and adds that these powers include but are not limited to the discretion to approve the conducting of less than 80 days within a 20-week period, whenever an eligible facility is prevented from live racing as a result of a natural disaster, an act of God, force majeure, a catastrophe, or such other occurrence over which the eligible facility has no control.

Proposed law further provides that nothing in present law diminishes the authority of the commission.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 27:353(4) and 354)