
DIGEST

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HB 484 Reengrossed

2018 Regular Session

Talbot

Abstract: Creates the Louisiana Fantasy Sports Contests Act, requires a proposition election to determine whether fantasy sports contests shall be permitted in each parish, and provides for the regulation of such contests.

Proposed law creates the "Louisiana Fantasy Sports Contests Act" and provides for a proposition election to be held on November 6, 2018, to determine whether fantasy sports contests shall be permitted in a particular parish. For purposes of proposed law, "fantasy sports contest" means any fantasy or simulation sports game or contest played through the internet or mobile device with all of the following elements:

- (1) Participants create a simulation sports team based on the current membership of actual amateur or professional sports organizations.
- (2) All prizes and awards offered to winning participants are established and made known to the participants in advance of the game or contest, and the value of the prizes or awards is not determined by the number of participant or the amount of any fees paid by those participants.
- (3) All winning outcomes reflect the relative knowledge and skill of the participant and are predominantly determined by accumulated statistical results of the performance of the individuals, including athletes in the case of sporting events.
- (4) No winning outcome is based on either of the following:
 - (a) On the score, point-spread, or any performance or performances of any single real-world team or any combination of such teams.
 - (b) Solely on any single performance of an individual athlete in any single real-world sporting or other event.

If a majority of the qualified electors in at least one parish in the state vote to approve the proposition to permit fantasy sports contests in such parish, proposed law requires the La. Gaming Control Board to adopt all rules necessary to implement, administer, and regulate fantasy sports contests as provided by proposed law.

Upon adoption of rules by the La. Gaming Control Board and the enactment of laws to provide for the licensing, regulation, and taxation of revenue relative to fantasy sports contests, proposed law

does all of the following:

- (1) Authorizes fantasy sports contests in only those parishes in which a majority of qualified electors in the parish voting on the proposition voted for the proposition to permit fantasy sports contests in the parish.
- (2) Provides an exception to the present law crimes of gambling (R.S. 14:90) and gambling by computer (R.S. 14:90.3) for fantasy sports contests.

(Amends R.S. 27:15(B)(1); Adds R.S. 14:90(D) and 90.3(J) and R.S. 27:301 - 305)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Remove the contingent effectiveness of proposed law based upon the passage of a proposed constitutional amendment which would authorize a statewide referendum election for propositions to allow new forms of gaming, gambling, or wagering.
2. Amend the definition of "fantasy sports contest" to provide that it is played through the internet or mobile device.
3. Change the date of the referendum election from October 12, 2019, to November 6, 2018, and provide that such election shall be held on a parish-by-parish basis instead of statewide.
4. Add a provision which prohibits the conducting of fantasy sports contests in any parish that does not hold a referendum election in this regard or that votes against a proposition to authorize the conducting of fantasy sports contests in the parish.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove the provision which prohibits the conducting of fantasy sports contests in any parish that does not hold a referendum election pursuant to proposed law.