

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 322 (HB 484)

2018 Regular Session

Talbot

New 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 new 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 participants 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.

The above new law provisions are effective August 1, 2018.

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, new law requires the La. Gaming Control Board to adopt all rules necessary to implement, administer, and regulate fantasy sports contests as provided by new law. (Effective November 7, 2018.)

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, new 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 existing law crimes of gambling (R.S. 14:90) and gambling by computer (R.S. 14:90.3) for fantasy sports contests.

See Act for additional effective dates.

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