

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 146

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHAMERHORN

GAMING: Authorizes an election to allow sports wagering in Sabine Parish

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 18:1300.27, relative to sports wagering; to provide for an election in Sabine
3 Parish to permit the operation of sports wagering; to provide for election outcomes;
4 and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:1300.27 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §1300.27. Sports wagering; local option election; Sabine Parish

8 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the governing
9 authority of Sabine Parish is hereby authorized to call and conduct an election on a
10 proposition to allow the operation of sports wagering within that parish.

11 B.(1) The governing authority of Sabine Parish may call, by ordinance or
12 resolution, an election on the proposition of whether the operation of sports
13 wagering, as authorized by Chapter 10 of Title 27 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes
14 of 1950, shall be permitted within that parish.

15 (2) The ordinance or resolution shall specify the date of the election and the
16 wording of the proposition to appear on the ballot.

17 C.(1) An election called as provided by this Section may be held on any date
18 as provided by R.S. 18:402(F), provided it falls more than forty-five days but not
19 more than six months after the meeting at which the resolution or ordinance calling
20 the election is adopted.

1 (2) Except as provided in this Section, the election shall be held in
2 accordance with the provisions of the Louisiana Election Code governing proposition
3 elections. Any elector who was qualified to vote in the election may demand a
4 recount of the ballots or contest the election in the manner and within the time
5 provided by law for recount or contest of elections in accordance with the Louisiana
6 Election Code.

7 D.(1) If a majority of the electors voting in the election authorized pursuant
8 to the provisions of this Section vote to permit the operation of sports wagering, then
9 sports wagering may be conducted in Sabine Parish as provided by law.

10 (2) If a majority of the electors voting in an election authorized pursuant to
11 the provisions of this Section vote not to permit the operation of sports wagering in
12 Sabine Parish, then no sports wagering shall be conducted in Sabine Parish.

13 E. The governing authority of Sabine Parish shall promptly notify the
14 Louisiana Gaming Control Board of the results of the election.

15 F. The cost of the election provided for by this Section shall be borne by the
16 governing authority of Sabine Parish.

17 G. The election pursuant to this Section shall take place only once.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 146 Original

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Schamerhorn

Abstract: Authorizes the governing authority of Sabine Parish to hold an election on whether to permit sports wagering.

Present law permits sports wagering in parishes that have elected to allow sports wagering within the parish. Provides that a parish must hold a referendum election and vote to approve certain forms of gaming before a law authorizing that form of gaming becomes effective in the parish.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law authorizes the governing authority of Sabine Parish to hold an election on whether to permit sports wagering in the parish.

Proposed law provides for the timing of the election, and requires the governing authority of Sabine Parish to notify the Louisiana Gaming Control Board of the results of the election.

Proposed law provides that the election shall take place only once.

(Adds R.S. 18:1300.27)