

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 12 (SB 218)

2015 Regular Session

Murray

New law establishes the Major Events Incentive Program authorizing the secretary of the Dept. of Economic Development (DED) to enter into a contract with a local organizing committee, endorsing parish, or endorsing municipality to recruit, solicit, or acquire for Louisiana qualified major specified events that have a significant positive economic development impact on the state. Subject to legislative appropriation and the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, the contract shall provide for financial commitment to the local organizing committee, endorsing parish, or endorsing municipality, which shall be paid with funds dedicated for such purposes.

New law creates the Major Events Incentive Program Subfund in the treasury for deposit of the incremental increase in certain state taxes receipts generated by the occurrence of all qualified events.

New law provides definitions for "endorsing municipality", "endorsing parish", "event support contract", "event contract", "local organizing committee", "secretary", and "site selection organization".

New law authorizes the DED secretary to determine the amount of the incentive to be paid pursuant to the contract, based upon the amount of incremental increase in tax receipts within the designated area attributable to the qualified event during a specified period as determined by the secretary. Such state tax receipts shall be limited to excise tax and sales and use tax, excluding state hotel and motel occupancy taxes. The amount of the increment increase shall not include local tax receipts.

New law requires the treasurer to make the incentive payment from the subfund as certified by the DED secretary, subject to legislative appropriation and the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

New law also defines "qualified event" or "qualified major event" and includes, among others:

- (1) The NFL Super Bowl.
- (2) The NCAA Final Four.
- (3) The NBA All-Star Game.
- (4) The X Games.
- (5) An NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision postseason playoff or championship game.
- (6) The World Games.
- (7) A national collegiate championship of an amateur sport recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC).
- (8) An Olympic activity, including a Junior or Senior activity, training program, or feeder program sanctioned by the USOC.
- (9) A mixed martial arts championship.
- (10) The Breeders' Cup World Championships.
- (11) A Bassmasters Classic.
- (12) A National Motorsports race.
- (13) Red Bull Signature Series.

- (14) A NCAA football kickoff game.
- (15) A national championship or Olympic trials of an amateur or professional sport sanctioned by the national governing body of the sport.
- (16) United States Bowling Congress Tournament.
- (17) A national military event.
- (18) A national political convention of the Republican National Committee or the Democratic National Committee.

New law also requires the event to be held no more often than annually and to be one for which one or more sites not located in the state are considered. Further requires that a site selection organization selects a site in this state as the sole site for the event.

Effective July 1, 2015.

(Amends R.S. 51:2365(D)(1) and (3) and (F)(2); adds R.S. 51:2365(F)(1)(d) and 2365.1)