
DIGEST

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Leger

HB No. 320

Abstract: Requires a portion of the monies collected from the operation of a land-based casino to be deposited into a special fund to be used to compensate the parish governing authority for support services as provided in the most recently approved casino support services contract.

Present law provides that the gaming control board and the parish governing authority shall enter into a casino support services contract to compensate the governing authority for support services resulting from operation of the land-based casino. Requires approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB). If a new contract is not agreed to by March 31, the contract currently in effect shall remain in full force and effect. If the JLCB approves the contract, it shall remain in full force and effect.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that if the JLCB disapproves or does not act upon the amount of the contract, it shall be nullified.

Proposed law retains present law and adds a provision that if JLCB disapproves or does not act upon the amount of the contract, the treasurer shall not deposit any monies into the Casino Support Services Fund which proposed law establishes as a special treasury fund to provide compensation to the parish governing authority pursuant to a casino support services contract.

Proposed law provides that monies in the fund shall be appropriated to the parish governing authority and used to compensate the parish for the cost to the parish of providing support services resulting from the operation of the official gaming establishment and the activities therein.

Present law provides that, of net revenues received from the land-based casino, up to \$500,000 shall be deposited into the Compulsive and Problem Gaming Fund. Further provides that the remainder of net revenues to be deposited to the state treasury shall be deposited as follows:

- (1) 10% shall be deposited in and credited to the Support Education in La. First (SELF) Fund to be used to provide the increase in salary of certain public pre-K through 12th grade certificated personnel and other public pre-K through 12th grade classroom teachers as provided in present law.

- (2) 90% to the SELF Fund.

Proposed law provides that the revenues shall be deposited as follows:

- (1) The first \$1,800,000 shall be deposited into the Casino Support Services Fund.
- (2) The next \$60 million shall be deposited and credited to the SELF Fund.
- (3) Any revenues in excess of the above amounts shall be divided equally between the Casino Support Services Fund and the SELF Fund until the casino support services contract has been fully funded.
- (4) The remainder shall be deposited into and credited to the SELF Fund.

Present law establishes the SELF Fund. Provides that certain riverboat gaming franchise fees and casino net revenues shall be used and expended solely as follows:

- (1) 70% percent of the monies in the fund shall be used to provide an increase in the salary of certain pre-K through 12th grade certificated personnel and for other public pre-K through 12th grade classroom teachers in FY 2001-2002 and annually to support such increase.
- (2) 30% of the monies in the fund shall be used to provide public postsecondary education faculty salary increases, including related benefits, to be distributed in accordance with a plan developed jointly by the Board of Regents and the division of administration in FY 2001-2002 and annually to support such increase.

Proposed law retains present law.

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

(Amends R.S. 27:247 and 270(A)(3)(a))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the original bill.

1. Provided that the first \$60 million deposited into the SELF Fund be for both K-12 and higher education, instead of K-12 education only.