HLS 11RS-1489 ENGROSSED

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Regular Session, 2011

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 117

BY REPRESENTATIVE BALDONE

GAMING: Provides with respect to promotional poker tournaments

2	To urge and request the commissioner of alcohol and tobacco control to refrain from taking
3	any regulatory or enforcement action regarding the conducting of promotional poker
4	tournaments at Class A-General retail or Class A-Restaurant establishments until the
5	Louisiana Legislature has an opportunity to legislatively address the issue of the
6	conducting of promotional poker tournaments.
7	WHEREAS, the commissioner of alcohol and tobacco control has the authority to
8	issue Class A-General retail permits and Class A-Restaurant permits, as defined in Part II
9	of Chapter 1 or Part II of Chapter 2 of Title 26 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
10	for the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises of retail establishments
11	including restaurants, bars, taverns, cocktail lounges, or clubs; and
12	WHEREAS, retail establishments which sell alcoholic beverages for consumption
13	on the premises often host promotional events including live entertainment, drink or food
14	specials, contests, or other events to promote their businesses and encourage the
15	consumption of food and beverages at their establishments; and
16	WHEREAS, promotional poker games which are banking or percentage games
17	played with cards for money, property, or any thing of value, which are commonly referred
18	to as "Texas hold 'em poker" games, are becoming increasingly popular throughout the
19	United States; and
20	WHEREAS, promotional poker games are an effective means to generate business
21	for retail establishments offering alcoholic beverages for the consumption on the premises

1 and should be considered as a promotional activity promoting a business and not illegal

- 2 gambling provided that the owner of the licensed premises or his employee or agent shall
- 3 not collect an entry fee or cover charge as a condition of entering or participating in a
- 4 promotional poker game or receive any thing of value as a result of conducting the
- 5 promotional poker game.
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
- 7 urge and request that the commissioner of alcohol and tobacco control refrain from taking
- 8 any regulatory or enforcement action regarding the conducting of promotional poker
- 9 tournaments conducted at Class A-General retail or Class A-Restaurant establishments until
- 10 the Louisiana Legislature has an opportunity to legislatively address the issue of the
- 11 conducting of promotional poker tournaments.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
- 13 commissioner of alcohol and tobacco control.

## **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)]

Baldone HCR No. 117

Requests the commissioner of alcohol and tobacco control to refrain from taking any regulatory or enforcement action regarding the conducting of promotional poker tournaments conducted at Class A-General retail or Class A-Restaurant establishments until the La. Legislature has an opportunity to address the issue of the conducting of promotional poker tournaments.

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Removed provisions regarding the La. Gaming Control Board, La. State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division, and the Office of the Attorney General Gaming Division.