

ARKANSAS SENATE
92nd General Assembly - Regular Session, 2019
Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 498

TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CASINO GAMING AMENDMENT OF 2018;
AMENDING ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENT 100; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 498

Amend Senate Bill No. 498 as originally introduced:

Page 7, delete lines 12 and 13, and substitute the following:

"County within two miles of the city limits of the county seat."

AND

Page 7, delete lines 26 through 36, and substitute the following:

"(n)(1) The Arkansas Racing Commission shall not issue a casino license for the conducting of casino gaming in Pope County unless the voters of the county approve conducting casino gaming in Pope County.

(2)(A) An election shall be called on the issue of conducting casino gaming in Pope County upon the:

(i) Calling of a special election by the quorum court of Pope County; or

(ii) Submission to the county clerk of a petition bearing signatures equal to at least eight percent (8%) of the qualified electors of Pope County who cast a vote in the county for the office of Governor in the last general election in which the office appeared on the ballot.

(B) If a petition under subdivision (n)(2)(A)(ii) of this section is found by the county clerk to be insufficient, the sponsor of the petition shall be permitted at least thirty (30) days from the date of notification for correction or amendment.



(3)(A) If a petition under subdivision (n)(2)(A)(ii) of this section is found to be sufficient, the issue of conducting casino gaming in Pope County shall be considered by the qualified electors of the county at a special election called for that purpose.

(B)(i) If the qualified electors approve conducting casino gaming in Pope County, the Arkansas Racing Commission shall accept applications for a casino license in Pope County.

(ii) If the qualified electors reject conducting casino gaming in Pope County, the Arkansas Racing Commission shall not accept applications for a casino license in Pope County.

(4)(A) If casino gaming in Pope County is rejected at an election under this subsection (n), any county adjacent to Pope County and bisected by an interstate highway may hold a special election on the issue of conducting casino gaming in the respective county within one hundred twenty (120) days of the rejection of casino gaming in Pope County.

(B)(i) A special election on the issue of conducting casino gaming in a county adjacent to Pope County and bisected by an interstate highway shall follow the procedures under this subsection (n).

(ii) All special elections held in counties adjacent to Pope County and bisected by an interstate highway on the issue of conducting casino gaming shall be held on the same date.

(C)(i) If the qualified electors in a county adjacent to Pope County and bisected by an interstate highway approve conducting casino gaming, the Arkansas Racing Commission shall accept applications for a casino license in the county at issue.

(ii) If the qualified electors in a county adjacent to Pope County and bisected by an interstate highway reject conducting casino gaming, the Arkansas Racing Commission shall not accept applications for a casino license in the county at issue.

(D) If the qualified electors of more than one (1) county adjacent to Pope County and bisected by an interstate highway approve conducting casino gaming in the respective county within one hundred twenty (120) days of the rejection of casino gaming in Pope County, the Arkansas Racing Commission shall accept applications for a casino license in the county which received the highest percentage of votes in favor of casino gaming in the county."

AND

Page 8, delete lines 1 through 36

AND

Page 9, delete lines 1 through 9

AND

Page 10, line 16, delete "~~13%~~ 20%" and substitute "13%"

AND

Page 10, line 18, delete "~~20%~~ 25%" and substitute "20%"

AND

Page 10, delete lines 20 and 21, and substitute the following:

"(2) By a majority vote of each house, the General Assembly may enact laws amending the tax rates under subdivision (a)(1) of this section."

AND

Page 10, delete lines 27 through 36, and substitute the following:

"(c)(1) The net casino gaming receipts tax shall be distributed as follows:

~~(1)~~(A) 55% to the Arkansas General Revenue Fund;

~~(2)~~(B) 17.5% ~~to the~~ to the Arkansas Racing Commission for deposit into the Arkansas Racing Commission Purse and Awards Fund to be used only for purses for live horse racing and greyhound racing by the Franchise holders, as the case may be, and then to be apportioned as set forth in section (e)~~;~~;

~~(3)~~(C) 8% to the county in which the casino is located~~;~~;

and

~~(4)(D)~~ 19.5% to the city or town in which the casino is located, provided that the casino is not located within a city or town, then the 19.5% dedicated to the city or town shall go to the county in which the casino is located.

(2) By a majority vote of each house, the General Assembly may enact laws amending the distribution of revenues under subdivision (c)(1) of this section."

AND

Page 11, delete lines 1 through 3

AND

Page 11, delete lines 17 and 18, and substitute the following:

"(2) By a majority vote of each house, the General Assembly may enact laws amending the distribution of revenues under subdivision (d)(1) of this section."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator M. Johnson

MBM/MBM - 04-01-2019 19:25:00

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Secretary