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Sales tax comparisons across areas are problematic and economies are not always easily comparable. However, I have analyzed several communities in Texas in the past and have consistently seen that sales tax revenues increased significantly after the election to allow alcohol sales.

Texas local jurisdictions (city and county) only receive a maximum of 2% of the total sales tax collected of 8.25% within the state. In Louisiana, the standard local jurisdictions receive more than three times or 6% of the total tax levied. I understand that Ruston, because of the additional tax from the Tax Incremental Funding (TID) share from the State, receives even additional revenue. It is generally true that Louisiana local jurisdictions receive significantly more tax revenue than their Texas counterparts. Ruston also receives the additional TID income and should attract further sales due to its proximity to Interstate 20.

M. Ray Perryman
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