
SENATE BILL 6078

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senators Prentice, Swecker, Hargrove, Rasmussen, Fairley, Oke, Franklin, Kline, Regala, Stevens and Thibaudeau

Read first time 04/16/2003. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to limiting house-banked cardrooms; amending RCW
2 9.46.0282; adding a new section to chapter 9.46 RCW; and providing an
3 effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 9.46 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 After the effective date of this act, the gambling commission shall
8 neither accept nor consider any new application from any entity for a
9 license to operate a house-banked cardroom.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 9.46.0282 and 1997 c 118 s 1 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 "Social card game" as used in this chapter means a card game (~~that~~
13 ~~constitutes gambling and is authorized by the commission under RCW~~
14 ~~9.46.070. Authorized card games may include a house banked or a~~
15 ~~player funded banked card game. No one may participate in the card~~
16 ~~game or have an interest in the proceeds of the card game who is not a~~
17 ~~player or a person licensed by the commission to participate in social~~
18 ~~card games. There shall be two or more participants in the card game~~

1 ~~who are players or persons licensed by the commission. The card game~~
2 ~~must be played in accordance with the rules adopted by the commission~~
3 ~~under RCW 9.46.070, which shall include but not be limited to rules for~~
4 ~~the collection of fees, limitation of wagers, and management of player~~
5 ~~funds. The number of tables authorized shall be set by the commission~~
6 ~~but shall not exceed a total of fifteen separate tables per~~
7 ~~establishment)), including but not limited to the game commonly known~~
8 ~~as "mah-jongg," which constitutes gambling and contains each of the~~
9 ~~following characteristics:~~

10 (1) There are two or more participants, and each of them are
11 players. The number of card tables is set by the commission but does
12 not exceed a total of fifteen separate tables per establishment;

13 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a
14 player's success at winning money or other thing of value by overcoming
15 chance is in the long run largely determined by the skill of the
16 player;

17 (3) A cardroom may serve as the custodian of a player-supported
18 progressive prize contest, in any card game authorized by the
19 commission;

20 (4) No organization, corporation, or person, other than one
21 licensed by the commission to operate a cardroom, collects or obtains
22 any money or thing of value from, or charges or imposes any fee upon,
23 any person which either enables him or her to play or results in or
24 from his or her playing;

25 (5) The type of card game is one specifically approved by the
26 commission pursuant to RCW 9.46.070; and

27 (6) The extent of wagers, money, or other thing of value which may
28 be wagered or contributed by any player does not exceed the amount or
29 value specified by the commission pursuant to RCW 9.46.070.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. Section 2 of this act takes effect January
31 1, 2016.

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