

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 1, 2008
AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 18, 2008
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 23, 2008

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007—08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2026

Introduced by Assembly Member Levine

February 15, 2008

~~An act to add Article 18 (commencing with Section 19990) to Chapter 5 of Division 8 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to gaming.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2026, as amended, Levine. Gaming.

The Gambling Control Act provides for the licensure of certain individuals and establishments involved in various gambling activities, and for the regulation of those activities by the California Gambling Control Commission. Existing law provides for the enforcement of those regulations by the Department of Justice. Any violation of these provisions is punishable as a misdemeanor, as specified.

This bill would require the Gambling Control Commission and the Bureau of Gambling Control within the Department of Justice to prepare a study containing suggested guidelines for the play of poker on the Internet, as specified, and provide a structure for regulation for gambling establishments and tribal governments to offer poker on the Internet. The bill would require the Legislative Analyst to analyze the proposed guidelines and structure developed in the study and assess the potential volume of business and future revenues to the state from gambling establishments and tribal governments that might offer Internet

poker. The bill would include a statement of legislative intent in this regard.

~~This bill would require the Bureau of Gambling Control within the Department of Justice to adopt regulations, in consultation with the California Gambling Control Commission, on or before July 1, 2009, governing the intrastate play of various Internet poker games to be offered by licensed gambling establishments, as specified. The bill would require licensed gambling establishments to register with the commission to engage in intrastate Internet poker games on their Web sites, and would authorize the commission to charge a registration fee. Because any violation of these provisions would be punishable as a misdemeanor, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime.~~

~~The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.~~

~~This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: *yes-no*.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. *The Gambling Control Commission and the*
2 *Bureau of Gambling Control within the Department of Justice*
3 *shall prepare a study containing suggested guidelines for the play*
4 *of poker on the Internet pursuant to the Unlawful Internet*
5 *Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-347), and*
6 *provide a structure for regulation of gambling establishments and*
7 *tribal governments that offer poker on the Internet. In preparing*
8 *the study and suggested guidelines and structure, the commission*
9 *and the bureau shall include safeguards to address the issue of*
10 *underage gambling, compulsive gambling, and effective law*
11 *enforcement oversight of the operation of Internet poker.*

12 *The Legislative Analyst shall analyze the proposed guidelines*
13 *and structure developed in the study by the commission and the*
14 *bureau and assess the potential volume of business and future*
15 *revenues to the State of California from gambling establishments*
16 *and tribal governments that might offer Internet poker.*

1 *SEC. 2. The enactment of this act does not authorize the play*
2 *of Internet poker. In enacting this act, it is merely the intent of the*
3 *Legislature to have the appropriate state agencies develop a*
4 *suggested structure, potential regulatory guidelines, and estimate*
5 *on the amount of revenues to the State of California that may be*
6 *generated by the play of Internet poker for possible consideration*
7 *in the future.*

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**All matter omitted in this version of the bill
appears in the bill as amended in Senate,
June 18, 2008 (JR11)**

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