

HB 859 -- SPORTS WAGERING

SPONSOR: Ross

This bill authorizes sports wagering in Missouri. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Exempts licensed facilities for sports wagering from specified federal laws such as 15 U.S.C. Section 1172;
- (2) Allows shipments of gambling devices used to conduct sports wagering and specifies that sports wagering must be conducted by a licensed facility which can offer either in person gaming, or over the Internet gaming via an interactive sports wagering platform;
- (3) Allows the commission to adopt rules pertaining to standards and procedures;
- (4) Requires that certificate holders designate an area within the licensed facility for sports wagering, ensure security, and receive complaints from the public;
- (5) Prohibits individuals who are less than 21 years of age from making sports wagers;
- (6) Requires certificate holders pertaining to information considered relevant by the commission and to post a sign in the designated sports wagering area indicating the minimum and maximum amounts that may be wagered;
- (7) Establishes an application and fee process for applicants who wish to offer sports wagering as specified in the bill. An initial application fee is \$10,000;
- (8) Establishes testing procedures for sport wagering devices and rules for sports gaming;
- (9) Creates rules for interactive sports wagering platform providers. An applicant for an interactive sports wagering platform license must submit an application to the commission and pay an initial application fee of \$10,000;
- (10) Requires the commission to adopt rules to ensure that advertisements for sports wagering do not target minors or other persons who are ineligible to place wagers, problem gamblers, or other vulnerable persons;
- (11) Requires the commission to conduct background checks on individuals seeking licenses;

(12) Requires certificate holders to employ commercially reasonable methods to prohibit the certificate holder, directors, officers, and employees of the certificate holder, and any relative living in the same household as these persons from placing sports wagers with the certificate holder. The bill prohibits any individual with access to nonpublic confidential information held by the certificate holder from placing sports wagers with the certificate holder, prevents the sharing of confidential information that could affect sports wagering offered by the certificate holder or by third parties until the information is made publicly available, and prohibit persons from placing sports wagers as agents or proxies for other persons;

(13) Creates requirements for cooperation with law enforcement agencies, the confidentiality of specified information, investigation requests, and the retention of specified information;

(14) Imputes certain acts or omissions by an interactive sports wagering platform provider;

(15) Imposes a wagering tax of 6.75% on the adjusted gross receipts received from sports wagering conducted by a certificate holder. Revenues received from the tax will be deposited into the Gaming Proceeds for Education Fund and shall be distributed as provided under Section 313.822, RSMo;

(16) Requires a certificate holder to pay the commission an annual administrative fee of \$5000. The commission shall deposit the administrative fees received under this subsection into the "Sports Wagering Fund," which is established by the bill. A certificate holder must also pay to the commission a fee of \$10,000 to cover the costs of a full reinvestigation of the certificate holder in the fifth year after the date on which the certificate holder commences sports wagering operations; and

(17) Designates all sports wagers as initiated, received, and otherwise made on the property of an excursion gambling boat within this state consistent with the intent of the United States Congress as articulated in the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006, 31 U.S.C. Sections 5361 to 5367, as amended, the intermediate routing of electronic data relating to lawful intrastate sports wagers authorized under the bill does not determine the location or locations in which such wager is initiated, received, or otherwise made.

This bill is similar to SB 222 (2019).