

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2159

To restore long-standing United States policy that the Wire Act prohibits all forms of Internet gambling, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 26, 2014

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. LEE, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To restore long-standing United States policy that the Wire Act prohibits all forms of Internet gambling, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Restoration of Amer-
5 ica’s Wire Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. WIRE ACT CLARIFICATION.**

7 Section 1084 of title 18, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by striking “bets or wagers or infor-
 2 mation assisting in the placing of bets or wa-
 3 gers on any sporting event or contest,” and in-
 4 serting “any bet or wager, or information as-
 5 sisting in the placing of any bet or wager,”;

6 (B) by striking “result of bets or wagers”
 7 and inserting “result of any bet or wager”; and

8 (C) by striking “placing of bets or wagers”
 9 and inserting “placing of any bet or wager”;
 10 and

11 (2) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
 12 following:

13 “(e) As used in this section—

14 “(1) the term ‘bet or wager’ does not include
 15 any activities set forth in section 5362(1)(E) of title
 16 31;

17 “(2) the term ‘State’ means a State of the
 18 United States, the District of Columbia, the Com-
 19 monwealth of Puerto Rico, or a commonwealth, ter-
 20 ritory, or possession of the United States;

21 “(3) the term ‘uses a wire communication facil-
 22 ity for the transmission in interstate or foreign com-
 23 merce of any bet or wager’ includes any trans-
 24 mission over the Internet carried interstate or in for-
 25 eign commerce, incidentally or otherwise; and

1 “(4) the term ‘wire communication’ has the
2 meaning given the term in section 3 of the Commu-
3 nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).”.

4 **SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

5 Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this
6 Act, shall be construed—

7 (1) to preempt any State law prohibiting gam-
8 bling; or

9 (2) to alter, limit, or extend—

10 (A) the relationship between the Interstate
11 Horseracing Act of 1978 (15 U.S.C. 3001 et
12 seq.) and other Federal laws in effect on the
13 date of enactment of this Act;

14 (B) the ability of a State licensed lottery
15 retailer to make in-person, computer-generated
16 retail lottery sales under applicable Federal and
17 State laws in effect on the date of the enact-
18 ment of this Act; or

19 (C) the relationship between Federal laws
20 and State charitable gaming laws in effect on
21 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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