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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6430**

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**State of Washington**

**54th Legislature**

**1996 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Schow and Spanel)

Read first time 02/02/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to social card games; and amending RCW 9.46.0281.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9.46.0281 and 1994 c 120 s 2 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 "Social card game," as used in this chapter, means a card game,  
6 including but not limited to the game commonly known as "Mah-Jongg,"  
7 which constitutes gambling and contains each of the following  
8 characteristics:

9 (1) There are two or more participants and each of them are  
10 players. (~~However, no business with a public cardroom on its premises~~  
11 ~~may have more than five separate tables at which card games are~~  
12 ~~played~~) The number of card tables shall be set by the commission but  
13 shall not exceed a total of fifteen separate tables per establishment;

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

18 (3) (~~No organization, corporation or person collects or obtains or~~  
19 ~~charges any percentage of or collects or obtains any portion of the~~

1 money or thing of value wagered or won by any of the players:  
2 PROVIDED, That this subsection shall not preclude a player from  
3 collecting or obtaining his or her winnings)) A cardroom may serve as  
4 the custodian of a player-supported progressive prize contest, in any  
5 card game authorized by the commission;

6 (4) No organization or corporation, or person other than one  
7 licensed by the commission to operate a cardroom collects or obtains  
8 any money or thing of value from, or charges or imposes any fee upon,  
9 any person which either enables him or her to play or results in or  
10 from his or her playing ((~~in excess of three dollars per half hour of~~  
11 ~~playing time by that person collected in advance:~~ PROVIDED, That a fee  
12 may also be charged for entry into a tournament for prizes, which fee  
13 shall not exceed fifty dollars, including all separate fees which might  
14 be paid by a player for various phases or events of the tournament:  
15 PROVIDED FURTHER, That this subsection shall not apply to the  
16 membership fee in any bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization));

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

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

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