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**State Government & Tribal Relations  
Committee**

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**HB 2205**

**Brief Description:** Concerning the regulated sports wagering industry.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Mena, Stearns, Chase, Peterson, Waters, Reed, Reeves and Pollet.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Permits sports wagering on collegiate sport and athletic events that involve a post-secondary educational institution located within Washington.
- Prohibits sports wagering on the performance or nonperformance of an individual who is enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution that is located within Washington.
- Allows wagers to be placed and accepted at a tribe's gaming facility if the customer placing the wager is physically present on the premises of any tribe's gaming facility.
- Permits a tribe to conduct sports wagering on the lands of another tribe subject to the requirements of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

**Hearing Date:** 1/16/26

**Staff:** Connor Schiff (786-7093).

**Background:**

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

The federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (1988) (IGRA) affirmed tribal gaming rights and

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provides a framework for Indian tribes and states to negotiate, on a government-to-government basis, for how class III gaming will be conducted within a state and on tribal lands. Under IGRA, class III gaming is only authorized on tribal land if the governing body of the Indian tribe that has jurisdiction over that land adopts an ordinance or resolution authorizing such activities. Class III gaming includes banking card games, slot machines, pari-mutuel lotteries, electronic games of chance, and sports wagering.

#### Sports Wagering in Washington.

In Washington, sports wagering is permitted only at a tribal gaming facility of a federally recognized Indian tribe that amends its class III gaming compact to authorize the tribe to conduct sports wagering on its land. Gambling information may be transmitted over the internet for sports wagering, however, a wager may be placed and accepted at a tribe's gaming facility only while the customer placing the wager is physically present on the premises of that tribe's gaming facility.

With exceptions, wagers may be placed on any of the following sporting events, athletic events, or competitions:

- a professional sport or athletic event;
- a collegiate sport or athletic event;
- an Olympic or international sports competition or event;
- an electronic sports or esports competition or event;
- a combination of the above sporting events, athletic events, or competitions; and
- a portion of any of the above sporting events, athletic events, or competitions.

Wagers may not be placed on a collegiate sport or athletic event that is offered or sponsored by, or played in connection with, a public or private post-secondary educational institution located within Washington. Wagering on any minor league sport is also prohibited.

#### **Summary of Bill:**

Sports wagering on a collegiate sport or athletic event that involves a post-secondary educational institution located within Washington is permitted. Wagers on the performance or nonperformance of an individual athlete that is enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution that is located within Washington are prohibited.

A tribe's class III gaming compact may be amended pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to authorize the tribe to conduct and operate sports wagering on any Indian lands. For gambling information transmitted over the internet, a wager may be placed and accepted at a tribe's gaming facility if the customer placing the wager is physically present on the premises of any tribe's gaming facility.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 5, 2026.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.