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**SENATE BILL 6137**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2026 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Cortes, Nobles, Saldaña, Stanford, and Wellman

Read first time 01/14/26. Referred to Committee on Business, Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to bolstering the regulated sports wagering  
2 industry; amending RCW 9.46.038, 9.46.0364, and 9.46.0368; and  
3 creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The state has long prohibited all forms  
6 and means of gambling except where carefully and specifically  
7 authorized and regulated. The legislature intends to bolster the  
8 regulated sports wagering industry. Currently, sports wagering in  
9 Washington is offered exclusively by tribal casinos subject to gaming  
10 compacts entered pursuant to the Indian gaming regulatory act. This  
11 offering has proven to meet the state's policy of offering gambling  
12 only in a highly regulated environment that is safe for the public.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 9.46.038 and 2020 c 127 s 11 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1)(a) For purposes of this chapter, "sports wagering" means the  
16 business of accepting wagers on any of the following sporting events,  
17 athletic events, or competitions by any system or method of wagering:

18 (i) A professional sport or athletic event;

19 (ii) A collegiate sport or athletic event;

20 (iii) An Olympic or international sports competition or event;

1 (iv) An electronic sports or esports competition or event;  
2 (v) A combination of sporting events, athletic events, or  
3 competitions listed in (a)(i) through (iv) of this subsection (1); or  
4 (vi) A portion of any sporting event, athletic event, or  
5 competition listed in (a)(i) through (iv) of this subsection (1).

6 (b) Sports wagering does not include the business of accepting  
7 wagers on horse racing authorized pursuant to chapter 67.16 RCW.

8 (2) For purposes of this section:

9 (a) "Collegiate sport or athletic event" means a sport or  
10 athletic event offered or sponsored by, or played in connection with,  
11 a public or private institution that offers education services beyond  
12 the secondary level (~~(, other than such an institution that is located~~  
13 ~~within the state of Washington)~~). Sports wagering may not be  
14 conducted on the performance or nonperformance of any specifically  
15 named individual participant in any collegiate sport or athletic  
16 event who is enrolled in an educational institution located within  
17 the state of Washington.

18 (b) "Electronic or esports event" means a live event or  
19 tournament attended or watched by members of the public where games  
20 or matches are contested in real time by players and teams and  
21 players or teams can win a prize based on their performance in the  
22 live event or tournament.

23 (c) "Professional sport or athletic event" means an event that is  
24 not a collegiate sport or athletic event at which two or more persons  
25 participate in sports or athletic events and receive compensation in  
26 excess of actual expenses for their participation in the event.  
27 "Professional sport or athletic event" does not include any minor  
28 league sport. Sports wagering may not be conducted on any minor  
29 league sport.

30 **Sec. 3.** RCW 9.46.0364 and 2020 c 127 s 2 are each amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (1) Upon the request of a federally recognized Indian tribe or  
33 tribes in the state of Washington, the tribe's class III gaming  
34 compact may be amended pursuant to the Indian gaming regulatory act,  
35 25 U.S.C. Sec. 2701 et seq., and RCW 9.46.360 to authorize the tribe  
36 to conduct and operate sports wagering on (~~its~~) Indian lands,  
37 provided the amendment addresses: Licensing; fees associated with the  
38 gambling commission's regulation of sports wagering; how sports  
39 wagering will be conducted, operated, and regulated; issues related

1 to criminal enforcement, including money laundering, sport integrity,  
2 and information sharing between the commission and the tribe related  
3 to such enforcement; and responsible and problem gambling. Sports  
4 wagering conducted pursuant to the gaming compact is a gambling  
5 activity authorized by this chapter.

6 (2) Sports wagering conducted pursuant to the provisions of a  
7 class III gaming compact entered into by a tribe and the state  
8 pursuant to RCW 9.46.360 is authorized bookmaking and is not subject  
9 to civil or criminal penalties pursuant to RCW 9.46.225.

10 **Sec. 4.** RCW 9.46.0368 and 2020 c 127 s 9 are each amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 The transmission of gambling information over the internet for  
13 any sports wagering conducted and operated under this section and RCW  
14 9.46.0364 is authorized, provided that the wager may be placed and  
15 accepted at a tribe's gaming facility only while the customer placing  
16 the wager is physically present on the premises of ~~((that))~~ a tribe's  
17 gaming facility.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If any provision of this act or its  
19 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
20 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
21 persons or circumstances is not affected.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act may be known and cited as the  
23 sports wagering integrity act.

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