



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2012

Legislative Document

No. 1771

S.P. 610

In Senate, January 11, 2012

An Act To Amend Maine's Gambling Laws

Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR. Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator FARNHAM of Penobscot.

- 1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
- 2 Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §1011, sub-§1-B is enacted to read:

1-B. Operation of slot machines for training and educational purposes.
 Notwithstanding subsections 1 and 1-A, an accredited postsecondary institution may
 possess and operate slot machines and table games for the purposes of training and
 education. Any casino or slot machine training or education program is subject to
 approval by the board.

8 Sec. 2. 8 MRSA §1013, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

9 3. Distribution of table games by licensed slot machine distributors. A person
 10 who qualifies for and is licensed as a slot machine distributor under subsection 2 may
 11 also distribute table games.

12 Sec. 3. 8 MRSA §1020, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 687, Pt. A, §5 and 13 affected by Pt. B, §11, is amended to read:

14 **1. Registration required.** A slot machine may not be operated or distributed 15 pursuant to this chapter unless the slot machine is registered by the board and the slot 16 machine operator and the slot machine distributor are each licensed by the board <u>or the</u> 17 <u>slot machine is distributed to and operated by an accredited postsecondary institution for</u> 18 <u>the purposes of training and education under section 1011, subsection 1-B</u>.

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 Sec. 4. 8 MRSA §1021, sub-§1, as enacted by IB 2009, c. 2, §38, is amended to

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 read:

1. Registration required. A table game may not be operated or distributed pursuant to this chapter unless the table game is registered by the board and the casino operator and the table game distributor are each licensed by the board <u>or the table game is distributed to and operated by an accredited postsecondary institution for the purposes of training and education under section 1011, subsection 1-B.</u>

26 Sec. 5. 8 MRSA §1035, as amended by IB 2009, c. 2, §43, is further amended to 27 read:

28 **§1035.** Location of slot machines

29 Slot machines may be located only on the premises of a commercial track or, the 30 premises of a casino or the premises of an accredited postsecondary institution for the purposes of training and education under section 1011, subsection 1-B. For the purposes 31 32 of this section, "premises of a commercial track" means property owned by the person who owns the property on which a commercial track is located and that is either within 33 34 200 feet of the outside edge of the racing oval or, if the commercial track was owned by a municipality when a license to operate slot machines in association with that commercial 35 36 track was issued, within 2,000 feet of the center of the racing oval.

37 Sec. 6. 8 MRSA §1035-A, as enacted by IB 2009, c. 2, §44, is amended to read:

1 §1035-A. Location of table games

Table games may be located only on the premises of a casino or the premises of an
 accredited postsecondary institution for the purposes of training and education under
 section 1011, subsection 1-B.

5 Sec. 7. 8 MRSA §1054, sub-§§3 and 4, as amended by IB 2009, c. 2, §49, are 6 further amended to read:

3. Operation or distribution without license. Operates or distributes a slot
machine or table game in this State without a license. This subsection does not apply to
the operation of a slot machine or table game by an accredited postsecondary institution
for the purposes of training and education or the distribution of a slot machine or table
game to an accredited postsecondary institution for the purposes of training and
education;

4. Operation or distribution of unregistered slot machine or table game.
 Operates or distributes a slot machine or table game that is not registered in this State.
 This subsection does not apply to the operation of a slot machine or table game by an
 accredited postsecondary institution for the purposes of training and education or the
 distribution of a slot machine or table game to an accredited postsecondary institution for
 the purposes of training and education;

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 Sec. 8. 8 MRSA §1054, sub-§8, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 687, Pt. A, §5 and

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 affected by Pt. B, §11, is amended to read:
- 21 **8. Failure to deposit funds.** Violates section 1036, subsection 2; or
- 22 Sec. 9. 8 MRSA §1054, sub-§9, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 687, Pt. A, §5 and 23 affected by Pt. B, §11, is amended to read:
- 9. Failure to grant access to premises, equipment and records. Violates section
 1042-: or
- 26 Sec. 10. 8 MRSA §1054, sub-§10 is enacted to read:
- 27 <u>10. Theft at a casino or slot machine facility.</u> Commits a theft at or from a
 28 licensed casino or slot machine facility.
- 29 SUMMARY
 30 This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing gambling:
 31 1. It permits licensed slot machine distributors to also distribute table games;
 32 2. It creates the Class C criminal offense of theft at or from a casino or slot machine facility; and
 34 3. It clarifies that accredited postsecondary institutions may possess and operate slot