



AN ACT REVISING GAMBLING LAWS TO ALLOW PAYMENT OF CONSIDERATION BY CASH, CHECK, OR DEBIT CARD; ALLOWING PAYMENTS FOR CALCUTTA POOLS, RAFFLES, CASINO NIGHTS, AND CARD GAMES NORMALLY SCORED USING POINTS; AND AMENDING SECTION 23-5-157, MCA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 23-5-157, MCA, is amended to read:

"23-5-157. Gambling on cash basis -- penalties. (1) (a) ~~In~~ Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), ~~in every gambling activity, except raffles as authorized in 23-5-413 and card games authorized in part 3 of this chapter and normally scored using points,~~ the consideration paid for the chance to play must be made in cash. A check or debit card may be used to obtain cash to participate in a gambling activity. A participant shall present the cash needed to play the game as the game is being played. If a check or debit card is used to obtain cash on the premises of a licensee then it must be delivered and accepted unconditionally. A licensee or employee of a licensee may not hold a check or other evidence of indebtedness for redemption pending the outcome of a gambling activity.

(b) The consideration for the chance to participate in Calcutta pools as provided in 23-5-222, raffles as provided in 23-5-413, casino nights as provided in 23-5-702, and card games normally scored using points as provided in Title 23, chapter 5, part 3, may be paid by cash, check, or debit card.

~~(b)(c)~~ Credit gambling is prohibited. Credit gambling is offering or accepting as part of the price of participation in a gambling activity or as payment of a debt incurred in a gambling activity:

- (i) a check, credit card, or debit card held pending the outcome of a gambling activity;
- (ii) a loan of any kind at any time from or on behalf of a licensee;
- (iii) any form of deferred payment, including a note, IOU, post-dated check, hold check, or other evidence of indebtedness; or
- (iv) a check issued or delivered that is accepted by the licensee with the knowledge that it will not be paid by the depository.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a criminal offense under 23-5-156 and must be punished in accordance with 23-5-161 or 23-5-162."

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
SB 0302, originated in the Senate.

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2017.

SENATE BILL NO. 302

INTRODUCED BY E. BUTTREY

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