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REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

Yes

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: "Voted off by Senate," 10-1-99, Atlantic City Press, p. C7.
"Whitman signs bill banning 'Cruises to nowhere'," 10-27-99, Atlantic City Press, p. C6.
"Bill limits gambling cruises," 10-1-99, Courier-News, p. A6.

P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 263, *approved October 26, 1999*
Assembly No. 983 (*Second Reprint*)

1 **ANACT** concerning shipboard gambling and supplementing chapter 37
2 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. A person is guilty of shipboard gambling when ²**[he]**the
8 person²:

9 (1) ¹**[engages in any gambling activity prohibited under this**
10 **chapter on a vessel that embarks from any point within the State, and**
11 **disembarks at the same or another point within the State, during which**
12 **time he knowingly causes or permits such gambling activity to be**
13 **conducted]** knowingly causes², engages in² or permits any gambling
14 activity prohibited under ²**[this chapter]** N.J.S.2C:37-2, 2C:37-3 or
15 2C:37-4² to be conducted on a vessel that embarks from any point
16 within the State, and disembarks at the same or another point within
17 the State¹, whether ¹the gambling activity is conducted¹ within or
18 without the waters of the State; or

19 (2) manages, supervises, controls, operates or owns any vessel that
20 embarks from any point within the State, and disembarks at the same
21 or another point within the State, during which time ²**[he]** the person²
22 knowingly causes or permits any gambling activity prohibited under
23 this chapter, whether ¹the gambling activity is conducted¹ within or
24 without the waters of the State.

25 b. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection a. of this
26 section is guilty of a crime of the ²**[fourth degree]** same degree as the
27 most serious crime that was committed in violation of N.J.S.2C:37-2,
28 2C:37-3 or 2C:37-4, as appropriate².

29 c. This section shall not apply to gambling activity conducted on
30 United States-flagged or foreign-flagged vessels during travel from a
31 foreign nation or another state or possession of the United States up
32 to the point of first entry into New Jersey waters ²or during travel to
33 a foreign nation or another state or possession of the United States
34 from the point of departure from New Jersey waters², provided that
35 nothing herein shall preclude prosecution for any other offense under
36 this chapter.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly ACT committee amendments adopted May 18, 1998.

² Assembly floor amendments adopted March 15, 1999.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

5

6 Prohibits shipboard gambling on vessels that embark and disembark
7 from any point within the State.

ASSEMBLY, No. 983

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1998 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman KENNETH C. LEFEVRE

District 2 (Atlantic)

Assemblyman FRANCIS J. BLEE

District 2 (Atlantic)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits shipboard gambling on vessels that embark and disembark from any point within the State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning shipboard gambling and supplementing chapter 37
2 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. a. A person is guilty of shipboard gambling when he:

8 (1) engages in any gambling activity prohibited under this chapter
9 on a vessel that embarks from any point within the State, and
10 disembarks at the same or another point within the State, during which
11 time he knowingly causes or permits such gambling activity to be
12 conducted, whether within or without the waters of the State; or

13 (2) manages, supervises, controls, operates or owns any vessel that
14 embarks from any point within the State, and disembarks at the same
15 or another point within the State, during which time he knowingly
16 causes or permits any gambling activity prohibited under this chapter,
17 whether within or without the waters of the State.

18 b. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection a. of this
19 section is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

20 c. This section shall not apply to gambling activity conducted on
21 United States-flagged or foreign-flagged vessels during travel from a
22 foreign nation or another state or possession of the United States up
23 to the point of first entry into New Jersey waters, provided that
24 nothing herein shall preclude prosecution for any other offense under
25 this chapter.

26
27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
28
29

30 STATEMENT
31

32 The purpose of this bill is to prohibit gambling aboard vessels that
33 embark and disembark from any point within this State. Federal law
34 permits gambling cruises, but also specifically allows the State to pass
35 legislation outlawing cruises that both embark and disembark within
36 the State. California has already passed legislation outlawing such
37 cruises. This legislation would therefore prohibit "cruises to
38 nowhere," which operate out of New Jersey ports for the purpose of
39 conducting offshore gambling activities.

40 Under the bill, a person is guilty of shipboard gambling when (1) on
41 a vessel that embarks from any point within New Jersey and
42 disembarks at the same or another point within New Jersey, the person
43 knowingly causes or permits any prohibited gambling activity; or (2)
44 the person manages, supervises, controls, operates or owns any such
45 vessel and knowingly causes or permits any prohibited gambling
46 activity. A passenger who participates in prohibited gambling activity

A983 LEFEVRE, BLEE

3

1 on such vessels is not engaged in shipboard gambling as defined under
2 the bill. A person guilty of shipboard gambling is guilty of a crime of
3 the fourth degree. The bill does not apply to gambling conducted on
4 United States-flagged or foreign-flagged vessels during travel from a
5 foreign nation, another state, or a United States possession up to the
6 point of first entry into New Jersey waters.

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE, TOURISM, GAMING AND
MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 983

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 14, 1998

The Assembly Commerce, Tourism, Gaming and Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 983.

The purpose of this bill is to prohibit what are commonly referred to as "cruises to nowhere", vessels that embark and disembark from any point within the State for the sole purpose of conducting offshore gambling activities in waters within the State, the waters within three miles of the New Jersey coast, or in waters beyond the three-mile limit. Federal law permits gambling cruises in waters beyond the three-mile limit, but allows states to prohibit gambling cruises that embark and disembark within a state.

As amended, the bill would make a person guilty of a crime of the fourth degree for shipboard gambling if the person (1) knowingly causes or permits any prohibited gambling activity; or (2) manages, supervises, controls, operates or owns a vessel and knowingly causes or permits any prohibited gambling activity. A passenger who participates in the gambling activity is not subject to a penalty.

This bill does not apply to gambling conducted on United States-flagged (registered) or foreign-flagged (registered) vessels during travel from a foreign nation, another State, or a United States possession up to the point of first entry into New Jersey waters.

The amendments adopted clarify that the provisions of the bill apply (1) to a person who knowingly causes or permits any prohibited gambling activity or (2) to a person who manages, supervises, controls, operates or owns a vessel and knowingly causes or permits any prohibited gambling activity, but not to a passenger who participates in the gambling activity.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1998 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 983

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 7, 1999

The Senate Judiciary Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 983 (2R).

This bill would prohibit what are commonly referred to as "cruises to nowhere", vessels that embark and disembark from any point within the State for the sole purpose of conducting offshore gambling activities within or without the waters of the State. Federal law permits gambling cruises in waters beyond the three-mile limit, but allows states to prohibit gambling cruises that embark and disembark within a State. Under the bill, penalties for shipboard gambling would be the same as those for illegal gambling offenses committed on land.

STATEMENT TO
[First Reprint]
ASSEMBLY, No. 983

with Assembly Floor Amendments
(Proposed By Assemblyman LEFEVRE)

ADOPTED: MARCH 15, 1999

These amendments broaden the scope of the bill and make it consistent with existing gambling offenses as provided in N.J.S.2C:37-2, 2C:37-3 and 2C:37-4. In particular, the amendments:

(1) broaden the definition of who is guilty of shipboard gambling to clearly include all persons who engage in conduct that can be characterized as engaging in the business of gambling;

(2) conform the penalties for shipboard gambling with the penalties for similar crimes described in N.J.S.2C:37-2, 2C:37-3 and 2C:37-4, so that a gambling activity violation committed at sea will carry the same punishment as a gambling activity violation committed on land; and

(3) clarify that the bill does not apply to Unites States-flagged or foreign-flagged vessels during travel to a foreign nation or another state or possession of the United States from the point of departure from New Jersey waters.

SENATE, No. 1962

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 7, 1999

Sponsored by:

Senator WILLIAM L. GORMLEY

District 2 (Atlantic)

Senator DIANE ALLEN

District 7 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits shipboard gambling on vessels that embark and disembark from any point within the State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/1/1999)

1 AN ACT concerning shipboard gambling and supplementing chapter 37
2 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. a. A person is guilty of shipboard gambling when the person:
8 (1) knowingly causes, engages in or permits any gambling activity
9 prohibited under N.J.S.2C:37-2, N.J.S.2C:37-3 or 2C:37-4 to be
10 conducted on a vessel that embarks from any point within the State,
11 and disembarks at the same or another point within the State, whether
12 the gambling activity is conducted within or without the waters of the
13 State; or

14 (2) manages, supervises, controls, operates or owns any vessel that
15 embarks from any point within the State, and disembarks at the same
16 or another point within the State, during which time the person
17 knowingly causes or permits any gambling activity prohibited under
18 this chapter, whether the gambling activity is conducted within or
19 without the waters of the State.

20 b. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection a. of this
21 section is guilty of a crime of the same degree as the most serious
22 crime that was committed in violation of N.J.S.2C:37-2, 2C:37-3 or
23 2C:37-4, as appropriate.

24 c. This section shall not apply to gambling activity conducted on
25 United States-flagged or foreign-flagged vessels during travel from a
26 foreign nation or another state or possession of the United States up
27 to the point of first entry into New Jersey waters or during travel to a
28 foreign nation or another state or possession of the United States from
29 the point of departure from New Jersey waters, provided that nothing
30 herein shall preclude prosecution for any other offense under this
31 chapter.

32
33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34
35
36 STATEMENT

37
38 The purpose of this bill is to prohibit what are commonly referred
39 to as "cruises to nowhere", vessels that embark and disembark from
40 any point within the State for the sole purpose of conducting offshore
41 gambling activities within or without the waters of the State. Federal
42 law permits gambling cruises in waters beyond the three-mile limit, but
43 allows states to prohibit gambling cruises that embark and disembark
44 within a state.

45 Under the bill, penalties for shipboard gambling would be the same
46 as those for illegal gambling offenses committed on land.

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1962

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 7, 1999

The Senate Judiciary Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1962.

This bill would prohibit what are commonly referred to as "cruises to nowhere", vessels that embark and disembark from any point within the State for the sole purpose of conducting offshore gambling activities within or without the waters of the State. Federal law permits gambling cruises in waters beyond the three-mile limit, but allows states to prohibit gambling cruises that embark and disembark within a State. Under the bill, penalties for shipboard gambling would be the same as those for illegal gambling offenses committed on land.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX- 004
08625

CONTACT: Gene Herman
609-777-2600

TRENTON, NJ

RELEASE: Tuesday,
October 26, 1999

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following pieces of legislation:

A-983, sponsored by Assembly Members Kenneth C. LeFevre (R-Atlantic) and Francis J. Blee (R-Atlantic) and Senators William L. Gormley (R-Atlantic) and Diane B. Allen (R-Burlington/Camden), makes it a crime to cause, engage in, or permit shipboard gambling, or to manage, control or operate a shipboard gambling vessel if the vessel embarks and disembarks from any point within the state. The penalties for shipboard gambling are the same as those for illegal gambling offenses committed on land.

A-1334, sponsored by Assembly Member Carol J. Murphy (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Senator Anthony R. Bucco (R-Morris), amends the Law Against Discrimination to provide guide dog instructors the same right-of-way over vehicles while crossing a highway or intersection as accorded blind persons accompanied by guide dogs. The purpose of extending the right is to allow guide dogs instructors and the dogs being trained to cross the street at a red light to test the training's effectiveness. The bill also amends the motor vehicle laws to conform with this right.

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