Introduced by
Representatives Kasper, Becker, Boschee, Dockter, Louser, Mock, Schmidt

A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 53-06.1-10.3 of the North Daketa Century Code, relating to the authorization of sports betting as a game of chance; and to amend and reenact section 53-06.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to authorization of sports betting as a game of chance.for an Act to create and enact a new subdivision to subsection 2 of section 12-60-24 and chapter 53-06.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to criminal history background checks and the regulation of sports wagering; to provide a penalty; and to provide a contingent effective date.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 53-06.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:
-53-06.1-03. Permits, site authorization, and licenses.

1. Except as authorized by the attorney general, an organization that has its licensesuspended or revoked, or has relinquished or not renewed its license and not disbursed its net proceeds, is ineligible for a license or permit. Only one of two or moreelosely related organizations may have a license or permit at one time. A college of university fraternity, sorority, or club is not closely related to an educationat organization. An organization shall apply for a permit as follows:
a. An organization recognized as a public-spirited organization by the governing body of a city or county may apply for permits. A local permit may allow the organization to conduct only raffles, bingo, or sports pools. A restricted event permit may allow the organization to conduct only raffles, bingo, sports pools, paddlewheels, twenty-one, and poker. The organization or closely related organizations as a whole may only award a primary prize that does not exceed eight thousand dollars and total prizes of all games do not exceed forty thousand
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dollars per year. These maximum prize amounts do net apply to raffles conducted under chapter 20.1-08. The determination of what is a "public-spirited organization" is within the sole discretion of the governing body. An organization shall disclose on the application its intended use of the net income from thegaming activity. A governing body may issue a permit for games to be held at designated times and places.
b. An organization shall apply to the governing body of the city or county in which the proposed site is located. Application must be made on a form prescribed by the attorney general. Approval may be granted at the discretion of the governingbody. A governing body may establish a fee not to exceed twenty five dollars for each permit. A permit must be on a fiscal year basis from July first to Junethirtieth or on a calendar-year basis.
C. Except for the restriction of subsection 1 of section 53-06.1-11.1, an organization that has a local permit may use the net income from the gaming activity for any purpose that does not violate this chapter or gaming rules.
-d. An organization that has a restricted event permit is restricted to one event per year and:
(1) May not pay remuneration to employees for personal services;
(2) Shalluse chips as wagers;
(3) Shall redeem a player's chips for merchandise prizes or cash;
(4) Shall disburse net income to eligible uses referenced by subsection 2 of section 53-06.1-11.1; and
(5) Shall file a report prescribed by the attorney general with the governing body and attorney general.
2. An eligible organization shall apply for a license to conduct only bingo, electronic quick shot bingo, raffles, calcultas, pull tabs, punchboards, twenty-one, paddlewheets, poker, or sports pools, or sports betting by:
a. First securing approval for a site authorization from the governing body of the city or county in which the proposed site is located. Approval, which may be granted at the discretion of the governing body, must be recorded on a site authorization form that is to accompany the license application to the attorney general for finat



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2. "Professional sport of athletic event" means an event at which two or more individuatsparticipate in a sport or athletic competition and receive compensation in excess of actual expenses for the individual's participation in the event.

SECTION 1. A new subdivision to subsection 2 of section 12-60-24 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

The attorney general for each applicant or licensee under chapter 53-06.3.
SECTION 2. Chapter 53-06.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

53-06.3-01. Definitions.
As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Adjusted gross sports wagering receipts" means an operator's gross receipts from sports wagering excluding free bets and promotional credits, less the total of all winnings paid to patrons, which includes the cash equivalent of any merchandise or thing of value awarded as a prize, and less excise tax payments remitted to the federal government.
2. "License" means a license applied for or issued by the attorney general under this chapter, including:
a. A mobile sports wagering license under section 53-06.3-06 to permit a mobile
operator to operate sports wagering through an approved mobile application or other digital platform that involves, at least in part, the use of the internet; and b. A supplier license under section 53-06.3-07 to sell goods and services to be used in connection with sports wagering, but not to directly accept wagers.
3. "Operator" means a mobile sports wagering licensee under section 53-06.3-06.
4. "Professional sports or athletic event" means an event at which two or more participants participate in a sports or athletic event and one or more participants receive compensation and which is not a prohibited sports event.
5. "Prohibited sports event" means a high school sports or athletic event, or any other event in which a majority of the participants are under eighteen years of age unless such activity qualifies as a professional sport or athletic event or is organized by an international body such as the international olympic committee.

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6. "Qualified gaming entity" means an entity that offers sports wagering through mobile applications or digital platforms in any jurisdiction in the United States pursuant to a state regulatory structure.
7. "Sports wagering" means the business of accepting wagers on wagering events or portions of wagering events, the individual performance statistics of individuals in wagering events, or a combination of any of the same by any system or method of wagering approved by the attorney general via a mobile sports wagering licensee's mobile applications and digital platforms that use communications technology to accept wagers. The term includes single-game bets, teaser bets, parlays, over-under, moneyline, pools, exchange wagering, in-game wagering, in-play bets, proposition bets, and straight bets. The term does not include fantasy contests in which participants assemble teams of athletes or individuals and the winning outcome reflects the relative knowledge and skill of the participants and is determined predominantly by the accumulated statistical results of the performance of athletes or individuals in an actual event.
8. "Sports wagering account" means a financial record established by an operator for an individual patron in which the patron may deposit and withdraw funds for sports wagering and other authorized purchases, and to which the licensed operator may credit winnings or other amounts due to that patron or authorized by that patron. The term includes an account that can be established electronically through an approved mobile application or digital platform.
9. "Supplier" means a person that manages, administers, or controls software or hardware directly impacting the operation of a sports betting platform, including geolocation services, know your customer services, payment processors, and data providers.
10. "Wager" means a sum of money or thing of value risked on an uncertain occurrence.
11. "Wagering event" means a sports or athletic event that is not a prohibited sports event, including a professional sports or athletic event, collegiate sports or athletic event, or amateur sports or athletic event, including an olympic or international sports or athletic event, a motor vehicle race, an electronic sports event, commonly referred to as
"e-sports", and any other event as permitted by the attorney general.

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53-06.3-02. Authorization of sports wagering - License required.

1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the operation of sports wagering and ancillary activities are lawful when conducted in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter.
2. A person may not engage in any activities in this state which require a license under this chapter unless the necessary license has been obtained in accordance with this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter.
53-06.3-03. Powers and duties of attorney general.
3. In administering and enforcing this chapter, the attorney general:
a. Shall regulate the conduct of sports wagering.
b. Shall determine the eligibility of a person to hold or continue to hold a license, issue all licenses, and maintain a record of all licenses issued under this chapter. c. Shall levy and collect all fees, civil penalties, and tax on adjusted gross sports wagering receipts imposed by this chapter, except as otherwise provided under this chapter.
d. May sue to enforce any provision of this chapter or any rule of the attorney general by civil action or petition for injunctive relief.
e. May hold hearings, administer oaths, and issue subpoenas or subpoenas duces tecum in the manner provided by applicable law.
f. May exercise any other powers necessary to effectuate the provisions of this chapter and the rules of the attorney general.
4. The attorney general shall examine the rules and regulations implemented in states where sports wagering is conducted and shall adopt, as far as practicable, a similar framework to ensure the sports wagering industry is best positioned to succeed. The rules, at a minimum, must include:
a. Qualifications for obtaining a mobile sports wagering license or supplier license:
b. Qualifications for obtaining a temporary mobile sports wagering license and temporary supplier license:
c. The acceptance of wagers on a wagering event or a series of wagering events; method of accounting to be used by operators; types of records that must be kept; type of system for wagering; protections for patrons placing wagers; and

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53-06.3-04. Application for license - Criminal history background check.

1. An application for a license or for renewal of a license required under this chapter must be submitted on a form provided by the attorney general. An application submitted to the attorney general must include the following:
a. The full name, current address, and contact information of the applicant:
b. Disclosure of each person that has control of the applicant as described in subsection 2;
c. Consent to permit the attorney general to conduct a criminal history record check, in accordance with subsection 3, of the applicant and each person disclosed under subdivision b ;
d. For the applicant and each person disclosed under subdivision $b$, a record of previous issuances and denials of a gambling-related license or application under this title or in any other jurisdiction;
e. Proof the applicant's system has been tested and certified for use in another United States jurisdiction by an independent testing laboratory; and
f. Any additional information required by the attorney general by rule.
2. The following persons are considered to have control of an applicant or a licensee:
a. Each corporate holding company, parent company, or subsidiary company of a corporate applicant or licensee and each person that owns fifteen percent or more of the corporate applicant or licensee and has the ability to control the activities of the corporate applicant or licensee or elect a majority of the board of directors of that corporate applicant or licensee, except for a bank or other licensed lending institution that holds a mortgage or other lien acquired in the ordinary course of business;
b. Each person associated with a noncorporate applicant or licensee which directly or indirectly holds a beneficial or proprietary interest in the noncorporate applicant's or licensee's business operation or that the attorney general otherwise determines has the ability to control the noncorporate applicant or licensee; and
c. Any executive, employee, or agent of an applicant or licensee that has ultimate decisionmaking authority over the conduct of the applicant or licensee's sports wagering operations in this state.

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3. The attorney general shall require an applicant and each person disclosed under subdivision b of subsection 1 to submit to a statewide and nationwide criminal history record check, except that an individual who has submitted to a criminal background check in this or any other state within the previous twelve months may not be required to submit to another criminal background check provided the individual submits the results of the previous criminal background check and affirms there has been no material change in the individual's criminal history since the time of the criminal background check. The nationwide criminal history record check must be conducted in the manner provided by section 12-60-24.
4. A person licensed under this chapter shall give the attorney general written notice within thirty days of any material change to any information provided in the licensee's application for a license or renewal, including any change in the identity of persons considered to have control of the licensee as described in subsection 2.

## 53-06.3-05. Denial of license - Reprimand - Suspension - Revocation.

The attorney general may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, or suspend or revoke a license:

1. If the applicant or licensee knowingly has made a false statement of material fact to the attorney general.
2. If the applicant or licensee intentionally has not disclosed the existence or identity of other persons that have control of the applicant or licensee as required by section 53-06.3-04.
3. If the applicant or licensee has had a license revoked by any government authority responsible for regulation of gaming activities.
4. If the applicant has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude, a gambling-related offense, a theft or fraud offense, or has otherwise demonstrated, either by a police record or other satisfactory evidence, a lack of respect for law and order.
5. If the applicant or licensee has not demonstrated to the satisfaction of the attorney general financial responsibility sufficient to adequately meet the requirements of the licensed business or proposed business.
6. If an applicant has not met the requirements of this chapter.

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53-06.3-06. Mobile sports wagering license.

1. The attorney general shall issue a mobile sports wagering license to an applicant that meets all requirements of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter and that has not violated any portion of section 53-06.3-05 or rules adopted under this chapter. The attorney general may issue a maximum of three mobile sports wagering licenses to qualified applicants that are able to meet the duties of a license holder under this chapter and that the attorney general determines will be able to best maximize taxable revenue for the state.
2. A qualified gaming entity is eligible to apply for a mobile sports wagering license.
3. A mobile sports wagering license issued by the attorney general pursuant to this section grants a licensee lawful authority to conduct sports wagering through any mobile application or digital platform approved by the attorney general within the terms and conditions of the license and any rules adopted under this chapter.
4. The fee for an initial or renewed mobile sports wagering license is fifty thousand dollars. In addition to the license fee, the attorney general may charge a processing fee for an initial or renewed license in an amount equal to the projected cost of processing the application and performing any background investigations. If the actual cost exceeds the projected cost, an additional fee may be charged to meet the actual cost. If the projected cost exceeds the actual cost, the difference may be refunded to the applicant or licensee.
5. Except as provided in subsection 6, a license issued or renewed under this section is valid for five years unless revoked sooner by the attorney general under section 53-06.3-05.
6. An applicant for a mobile sports wagering license may submit with the application a request to the attorney general for the immediate commencement of sports wagering operations. The request must include the initial license fee of fifty thousand dollars payable to the attorney general. Upon receiving a request for a temporary license, the attorney general shall review the request. If the attorney general determines the entity requesting the temporary license is a qualified gaming entity, has paid the initial license fee, and has submitted an application for a sports wagering license, the attorney general shall authorize the qualified gaming entity to conduct sports wagering

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of five thousand dollars. If the attorney general determines the applicant is qualified under subsection 2, meets the requirements established by rule for a temporary license, and has paid the initial license fee and the attorney general is not aware of any reason the applicant is ineligible for a license under this section, the attorney general shall issue a temporary supplier license. A temporary license issued under this subsection is valid for three years or until a final determination on the supplier license application is made, whichever is sooner. If after investigation the attorney general determines the applicant is eligible for a supplier license under this chapter, the attorney general shall issue the initial supplier license, at which time the temporary license terminates.
7. The attorney general shall deposit all fees collected under this section in the sports wagering operating fund.

53-06.3-08. Sports wagering house rules.

1. An operator shall adopt comprehensive house rules for game play governing sports wagering transactions with the operator's patrons. The rules must specify the amounts to be paid on winning wagers, the circumstances under which the operator will void a bet, treatment of errors, late bets and related contingencies, and the effect of schedule changes. House rules must be approved by the attorney general before implementation.
2. The house rules, together with any other information the attorney general determines to be appropriate, must be available in the sports wagering system.

## 53-06.3-09. Operator duties.

An operator shall:

1. Employ a monitoring system using software to identify irregularities in volume or odds swings that could signal suspicious activity that requires further investigation. Such activity immediately must be reported to and investigated by the attorney general. System requirements and specifications must be in accordance with industry standards.
2. Promptly report to the attorney general any facts or circumstances related to the operation of a licensee that constitute a violation of state or federal law and immediately report any suspicious betting over a threshold set by the operator which

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than ten thousand dollars for each violation. The attorney general shall deposit fines collected
under this section in the sports wagering operating fund.
53-06.3-15. Unauthorized sports wagering - Penalties.
A person may not conduct sports wagering unless the person is licensed under this chapter.
A person violating this section is guilty of a class $B$ misdemeanor. A second violation is a class $A$
misdemeanor. A third or subsequent violation is a class $C$ felony.
SECTION 3. CONTINGENT EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act becomes effective thirty days after the secretary of state certifies to the legislative council that House Concurrent Resolution No. 3032, as adopted by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly, has been approved by the voters.

