

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2050

To establish a panel to investigate illegal gambling on college sports and to recommend effective countermeasures to combat this serious national problem.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 9, 2000

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. BAUCUS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish a panel to investigate illegal gambling on college sports and to recommend effective countermeasures to combat this serious national problem.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Combatting Illegal Col-
5 lege and University Gambling Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) illegal gambling on college sports is a seri-
9 ous national problem;

1 (2) illegal gambling by college students and
2 other underage persons, particularly on sports, is a
3 serious national problem that warrants effective na-
4 tional countermeasures to combat it;

5 (3) recent scientific reports suggest a very high
6 incidence of illegal gambling among college students,
7 on college sporting events;

8 (4) illegal student bookies are present at every
9 collegiate institution;

10 (5) there is evidence that illegal sports gam-
11 bling, including that conducted on college and uni-
12 versity campuses through illegal student bookies, is
13 linked to organized crime and is a major source of
14 revenue for organized crime operations;

15 (6) the FBI estimates that close to
16 \$2,500,000,000 is wagered illegally on the National
17 Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Men's Bas-
18 ketball Tournament each year;

19 (7) in Nevada, the only State where such sports
20 betting is legal, the 1998 National Collegiate Ath-
21 letic Association Division I Men's Basketball Tour-
22 nament saw approximately \$80,000,000 wagered
23 with Nevada's regulated sports books, or only three
24 percent of that wagered illegally elsewhere;

1 (8) there are no comprehensive studies available
2 that analyze the prevalence of illegal gambling on
3 college sports;

4 (9) the National Gambling Impact Study Com-
5 mission (NGISC) (as authorized under Public Law
6 104–169) was expressly limited by its statutory
7 charter to a study of legal gambling but did rec-
8 ommend that the role of illegal sports gambling be
9 examined in future gambling related research includ-
10 ing research by agencies of the Department of Jus-
11 tice;

12 (10) the issue of illegal gambling on college
13 sports is still largely overlooked by college adminis-
14 trators;

15 (11) there needs to be comprehensive gambling
16 education programs conducted on each campus that
17 target all students as recommended by the NGISC;

18 (12) illegal gambling on college sports will con-
19 tinue to flourish throughout the United States un-
20 less a strong effort is made to enforce State and
21 Federal laws prohibiting such activity;

22 (13) in order to combat illegal gambling on col-
23 lege sports in this country, law enforcement must
24 ensure that compliance with Federal and State laws
25 is a high priority; and

1 (14) absent meaningful countermeasures, in-
2 cluding implementation of more effective student
3 awareness and education campaigns, illegal gambling
4 on college sports will continue to be a problem on
5 college and university campuses across the United
6 States.

7 **SEC. 3. STUDY OF GAMBLING ON COLLEGE AND UNIVER-**
8 **SITY CAMPUSES.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PANEL.—Not later than 90
10 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney
11 General shall establish a panel, which shall be composed
12 of Federal, State, and local government law enforcement
13 officials, to conduct a study of illegal college sports gam-
14 bling.

15 (b) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The study conducted by
16 the panel established under subsection (a) shall include
17 an analysis of—

18 (1) the scope and prevalence of illegal college
19 sports gambling, including unlawful sports gambling
20 (as defined in section 3702 of title 28, United States
21 Code);

22 (2) the role of organized crime in illegal gam-
23 bling on college sports;

24 (3) the role of State regulators and the legal
25 sports books in Nevada in assisting law enforcement

1 to uncover illegal sports gambling and related illegal
2 activities;

3 (4) the enforcement and implementation of the
4 Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act of
5 1992, including whether it has been adequately en-
6 forced;

7 (5) the effectiveness of steps taken by institu-
8 tions of higher education to date, whether individ-
9 ually or through national organizations, to reduce
10 the problem of illegal gambling on college sports;

11 (6) the factors that influence the attitudes or
12 levels of awareness of administrators, professors,
13 and students, including student athletes, about ille-
14 gal gambling on college sports;

15 (7) the effectiveness of new countermeasures to
16 reduce illegal gambling on college sports, including
17 related requirements for institutions of higher edu-
18 cation and persons receiving Federal education
19 funds;

20 (8) potential actions that could be taken by the
21 National Collegiate Athletic Association to address
22 illegal gambling on college and university campuses;
23 and

1 (9) other matters relevant to the issue of illegal
2 gambling on college sports as determined by the At-
3 torney General.

4 **SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

5 Not later than 12 months after the establishment of
6 the panel, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress
7 a report on the study conducted under section 3, which
8 shall include—

9 (1) recommendations for actions colleges, uni-
10 versities, and the National Collegiate Athletic Asso-
11 ciation should implement to address the issue of ille-
12 gal gambling on college sports;

13 (2) recommendations for intensive educational
14 campaigns which the National Collegiate Athletic
15 Association could implement to assist in the effort to
16 prevent illegal gambling on college sports;

17 (3) recommendations for any Federal and State
18 legislative actions to address the issue of illegal gam-
19 bling on college sports; and

20 (4) recommendations for any administrative or
21 private sector actions to address the issue of illegal
22 gambling on college sports.

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