

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2159

To restore long-standing United States policy that the Wire Act prohibits all forms of Internet gambling, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 26, 2014

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. LEE, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To restore long-standing United States policy that the Wire Act prohibits all forms of Internet gambling, and for other purposes.

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 “Restoration of Amer-  
5 ica’s Wire Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. WIRE ACT CLARIFICATION.**

7 Section 1084 of title 18, United States Code, is  
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by striking “bets or wagers or infor-  
2 mation assisting in the placing of bets or wa-  
3 gers on any sporting event or contest,” and in-  
4 serting “any bet or wager, or information as-  
5 sisting in the placing of any bet or wager,”;

6 (B) by striking “result of bets or wagers”  
7 and inserting “result of any bet or wager”; and

8 (C) by striking “placing of bets or wagers”  
9 and inserting “placing of any bet or wager”;  
10 and

11 (2) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the  
12 following:

13 “(e) As used in this section—

14 “(1) the term ‘bet or wager’ does not include  
15 any activities set forth in section 5362(1)(E) of title  
16 31;

17 “(2) the term ‘State’ means a State of the  
18 United States, the District of Columbia, the Com-  
19 monwealth of Puerto Rico, or a commonwealth, ter-  
20 ritory, or possession of the United States;

21 “(3) the term ‘uses a wire communication facil-  
22 ity for the transmission in interstate or foreign com-  
23 merce of any bet or wager’ includes any trans-  
24 mission over the Internet carried interstate or in for-  
25 eign commerce, incidentally or otherwise; and

1           “(4) the term ‘wire communication’ has the  
2           meaning given the term in section 3 of the Commu-  
3           nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).”.

4 **SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

5           Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this  
6 Act, shall be construed—

7           (1) to preempt any State law prohibiting gam-  
8           bling; or

9           (2) to alter, limit, or extend—

10           (A) the relationship between the Interstate  
11           Horseracing Act of 1978 (15 U.S.C. 3001 et  
12           seq.) and other Federal laws in effect on the  
13           date of enactment of this Act;

14           (B) the ability of a State licensed lottery  
15           retailer to make in-person, computer-generated  
16           retail lottery sales under applicable Federal and  
17           State laws in effect on the date of the enact-  
18           ment of this Act; or

19           (C) the relationship between Federal laws  
20           and State charitable gaming laws in effect on  
21           the date of the enactment of this Act.

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