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SFA BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 592 (Substitute S-1 as reported)
Sponsor: Senator Mike Rogers
Committee: Gaming and Casino Oversight

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Penal Code to include a felony violation of Section 18 of the Michigan Gaming Control and Revenue Act, as proposed by Senate Bill 569, in the Code's list of offenses included in the crimes of racketeering and money laundering. The bill also would add a racketeering violation to the list of offenses included in the crime of money laundering.

Section 18 of the Michigan Gaming Control and Revenue Act would make various actions regarding the conduct of a gambling operation punishable as felonies. They include, for example: conducting a gambling operation without a license or in a manner other than permitted; knowingly making a false statement on an application for any license provided under the Act; knowingly providing false testimony to the Gaming Control Board; willfully failing to report or pay any license fee or tax imposed under the Act; making or knowingly accepting a political contribution in violation of the Act; bribing, or soliciting, offering, or accepting a bribe, to affect the outcome of a gambling game or to influence official action of a Board member; using, or possessing with intent to use, a device to assist in projecting the outcome of a gambling game or cheating at a gambling game; or manufacturing, selling, or distributing a device intended to be used in violation of the Act.

MCL 750.159g & 750.411j Legislative Analyst: P. Affholter

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on State government.

There is no information currently available that would indicate the potential number of new violations that could result from including gaming violations in the definition of racketeering. To the extent that the expanded definition resulted in increased violations, costs for apprehending, prosecuting, and sanctioning offenders would increase.

Date Completed: 6-9-97 Fiscal Analyst: M. Hansen