

Public Law 102-559  
102d Congress

An Act

To prohibit sports gambling under State law, and for other purposes.

Oct. 28, 1992

[S. 474]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

Professional and  
Amateur Sports  
Protection Act.  
28 USC 1 note.

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act”.

**SEC. 2. PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR SPORTS PROTECTION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part VI of title 28 of the United States Code is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“CHAPTER 178—PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR SPORTS PROTECTION**

“Sec.

“3701. Definitions.

“3702. Unlawful sports gambling.

“3703. Injunctions.

“3704. Applicability.

**“§ 3701. Definitions**

“For purposes of this chapter—

“(1) the term ‘amateur sports organization’ means—

“(A) a person or governmental entity that sponsors, organizes, schedules, or conducts a competitive game in which one or more amateur athletes participate, or

“(B) a league or association of persons or governmental entities described in subparagraph (A),

“(2) the term ‘governmental entity’ means a State, a political subdivision of a State, or an entity or organization, including an entity or organization described in section 4(5) of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703(5)), that has governmental authority within the territorial boundaries of the United States, including on lands described in section 4(4) of such Act (25 U.S.C. 2703(4)),

“(3) the term ‘professional sports organization’ means—

“(A) a person or governmental entity that sponsors, organizes, schedules, or conducts a competitive game in which one or more professional athletes participate, or

“(B) a league or association of persons or governmental entities described in subparagraph (A),

“(4) the term ‘person’ has the meaning given such term in section 1 of title 1, and

“(5) the term ‘State’ means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, or any territory or possession of the United States.

**“§ 3702. Unlawful sports gambling**

“It shall be unlawful for—

“(1) a governmental entity to sponsor, operate, advertise, promote, license, or authorize by law or compact, or

“(2) a person to sponsor, operate, advertise, or promote, pursuant to the law or compact of a governmental entity, a lottery, sweepstakes, or other betting, gambling, or wagering scheme based, directly or indirectly (through the use of geographical references or otherwise), on one or more competitive games in which amateur or professional athletes participate, or are intended to participate, or on one or more performances of such athletes in such games.

**“§ 3703. Injunctions**

“A civil action to enjoin a violation of section 3702 may be commenced in an appropriate district court of the United States by the Attorney General of the United States, or by a professional sports organization or amateur sports organization whose competitive game is alleged to be the basis of such violation.

**“§ 3704. Applicability**

“(a) Section 3702 shall not apply to—

“(1) a lottery, sweepstakes, or other betting, gambling, or wagering scheme in operation in a State or other governmental entity, to the extent that the scheme was conducted by that State or other governmental entity at any time during the period beginning January 1, 1976, and ending August 31, 1990;

“(2) a lottery, sweepstakes, or other betting, gambling, or wagering scheme in operation in a State or other governmental entity where both—

“(A) such scheme was authorized by a statute as in effect on October 2, 1991; and

“(B) a scheme described in section 3702 (other than one based on parimutuel animal racing or jai-alai games) actually was conducted in that State or other governmental entity at any time during the period beginning September 1, 1989, and ending October 2, 1991, pursuant to the law of that State or other governmental entity;

“(3) a betting, gambling, or wagering scheme, other than a lottery described in paragraph (1), conducted exclusively in casinos located in a municipality, but only to the extent that—

“(A) such scheme or a similar scheme was authorized, not later than one year after the effective date of this chapter, to be operated in that municipality; and

“(B) any commercial casino gaming scheme was in operation in such municipality throughout the 10-year period ending on such effective date pursuant to a comprehensive system of State regulation authorized by that State’s constitution and applicable solely to such municipality; or

“(4) parimutuel animal racing or jai-alai games.

“(b) Except as provided in subsection (a), section 3702 shall apply on lands described in section 4(4) of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703(4)).”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of chapters for part VI of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by amending the item relating to chapter 176 to read as follows:

**"176. Federal Debt Collection Procedure ..... 3001",**  
and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

**"178. Professional and Amateur Sports Protection ..... 3701".**

**SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Act shall take effect on January 1, 1993.

28 USC 3701  
note.

Approved October 28, 1992.

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 474:**

**SENATE REPORTS:** No. 102-248 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD,** Vol. 138 (1992):

June 2, considered and passed Senate.

Oct. 5, considered and passed House, amended.

Oct. 7, Senate concurred in House amendments.