

4631

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 5, 2015

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Introduced by M. of A. CLARK, ORTIZ -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A.  
CROUCH, FINCH, McDONOUGH -- read once and referred to the Committee on  
Codes

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to possession of gambling  
devices and promoting certain gambling activities

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-  
BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Section 225.30 of the penal law, as amended by section 4 of  
2 part B of chapter 383 of the laws of 2001, subdivision c as added by  
3 chapter 498 of the laws of 2003, subdivision d as added by chapter 321  
4 of the laws of 2010 and subdivision e as amended by chapter 47 of the  
5 laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:  
6 S 225.30 Possession of a gambling device IN THE SECOND DEGREE.  
7     a. A person is guilty of possession of a gambling device IN THE SECOND  
8 DEGREE when, with knowledge of the character thereof, he or she manufac-  
9 tures, sells, transports, places or possesses, or conducts or negotiates  
10 any transaction affecting or designed to affect ownership, custody or  
11 use of:  
12     1. A slot machine, unless such possession is permitted pursuant to  
13 article nine-A of the general municipal law; or  
14     2. Any other gambling device, believing that the same is to be used in  
15 the advancement of unlawful gambling activity; or  
16     3. A coin operated gambling device with intent to use such device in  
17 the advancement of unlawful gambling activity.  
18     b. Possession of a slot machine shall not be unlawful where such  
19 possession and use is pursuant to a gaming compact, duly executed by the  
20 governor and an Indian tribe or Nation, under the Indian Gaming Regula-  
21 tory Act, as codified at 25 U.S.C. SSSS 2701-2721 and 18 U.S.C. SSSS  
22 1166-1168, where the use of such slot machine or machines is consistent  
23 with such gaming compact and where the state receives a negotiated

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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percentage of the net drop (defined as gross money wagered after payout, but before expenses) from any such slot machine or machines.

c. Transportation and possession of a slot machine shall not be unlawful where such transportation and possession is necessary to facilitate the training of persons in the repair and reconditioning of such machines as are used or are to be used for operations in those casinos authorized pursuant to a tribal-state compact as provided for pursuant to section eleven hundred seventy-two of title fifteen of the United States Code in the state of New York.

d. Transportation and possession of a slot machine shall not be unlawful where such slot machine was transported into this state in a sealed container and possessed for the purpose of product development, research, or additional manufacture or assembly, and such slot machine will be or has been transported in a sealed container to a jurisdiction outside of this state for purposes which are lawful in such outside jurisdiction.

e. Transportation and possession of a gambling device shall not be unlawful where (i) the manufacturer or distributor of the gambling device has filed a statement with the state gaming commission required by subdivision twenty-one of section one hundred four of the racing, pari-mutuel wagering and breeding law, (ii) such gambling device was transported into this state in a sealed container and possessed for the purpose of exhibition or marketing in accordance with such statement, and (iii) such device is thereafter transported in a sealed container to a jurisdiction outside of this state for purposes that are lawful in such outside jurisdiction.

Possession of a gambling device IN THE SECOND DEGREE is a class A misdemeanor.

S 2. The penal law is amended by adding a new section 225.31 to read as follows:

S 225.31 POSSESSION OF A GAMBLING DEVICE IN THE FIRST DEGREE.

A. A PERSON IS GUILTY OF POSSESSION OF A GAMBLING DEVICE IN THE FIRST DEGREE WHEN, WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHARACTER THEREOF, HE OR SHE MANUFACTURES, SELLS, TRANSPORTS, PLACES OR POSSESSES, OR CONDUCTS OR NEGOTIATES ANY TRANSACTION AFFECTING OR DESIGNED TO AFFECT OWNERSHIP, CUSTODY OR USE OF FIVE OR MORE OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING DEVICES:

1. A SLOT MACHINE, UNLESS SUCH POSSESSION IS PERMITTED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE NINE-A OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW; OR

2. ANY OTHER GAMBLING DEVICE, BELIEVING THAT THE SAME IS TO BE USED IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF UNLAWFUL GAMBLING ACTIVITY; OR

3. A COIN OPERATED GAMBLING DEVICE WITH INTENT TO USE SUCH DEVICE IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF UNLAWFUL GAMBLING ACTIVITY.

B. POSSESSION OF A SLOT MACHINE SHALL NOT BE UNLAWFUL WHERE SUCH POSSESSION AND USE IS PURSUANT TO A GAMING COMPACT, DULY EXECUTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND AN INDIAN TRIBE OR NATION, UNDER THE INDIAN GAMING REGULATORY ACT, AS CODIFIED AT 25 U.S.C. SSSS 2701-2721 AND 18 U.S.C. SSSS 1166-1168, WHERE THE USE OF SUCH SLOT MACHINE OR MACHINES IS CONSISTENT WITH SUCH GAMING COMPACT AND WHERE THE STATE RECEIVES A NEGOTIATED PERCENTAGE OF THE NET DROP (DEFINED AS GROSS MONEY WAGERED AFTER PAYOUT, BUT BEFORE EXPENSES) FROM ANY SUCH SLOT MACHINE OR MACHINES.

C. TRANSPORTATION AND POSSESSION OF A SLOT MACHINE SHALL NOT BE UNLAWFUL WHERE SUCH TRANSPORTATION AND POSSESSION IS NECESSARY TO FACILITATE THE TRAINING OF PERSONS IN THE REPAIR AND RECONDITIONING OF SUCH MACHINES AS ARE USED OR ARE TO BE USED FOR OPERATIONS IN THOSE CASINOS AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO A TRIBAL-STATE COMPACT AS PROVIDED FOR PURSUANT

1 TO SECTION ELEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO OF TITLE FIFTEEN OF THE UNITED  
2 STATES CODE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

3 POSSESSION OF A GAMBLING DEVICE IN THE FIRST DEGREE IS A CLASS E FELO-  
4 NY.

5 S 3. Subdivision 1 of section 225.32 of the penal law, as amended by  
6 chapter 321 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

7 1. In any prosecution for possession of a gambling device specified in  
8 subdivision [one] A of section 225.30 OR IN SUBDIVISION A OF SECTION  
9 225.31 of this article, it is an affirmative defense that: (a) the slot  
10 machine possessed by the defendant was neither used nor intended to be  
11 used in the operation or promotion of unlawful gambling activity or  
12 enterprise and that such slot machine is an antique; for purposes of  
13 this section proof that a slot machine was manufactured prior to nine-  
14 teen hundred forty-one shall be conclusive proof that such a machine is  
15 an antique; (b) the slot machine possessed by the defendant was manufac-  
16 tured or assembled by the defendant for the sole purpose of transporting  
17 such slot machine in a sealed container to a jurisdiction outside this  
18 state for purposes which are lawful in such outside jurisdiction; or (c)  
19 the slot machine possessed by the defendant was neither used nor  
20 intended to be used in the operation or promotion of unlawful gambling  
21 activity or enterprise, is more than thirty years old, and such  
22 possession takes place in the defendant's home.

23 S 4. Section 225.10 of the penal law is amended to read as follows:

24 S 225.10 Promoting gambling in the first degree.

25 A person is guilty of promoting gambling in the first degree when he  
26 OR SHE knowingly advances or profits from unlawful gambling activity by:

27 1. Engaging in bookmaking to the extent that he OR SHE receives or  
28 accepts in any one day more than five bets totaling more than five thou-  
29 sand dollars; or

30 2. Receiving, in connection with a lottery or policy scheme or enter-  
31 prise, (a) money or written records from a person other than a player  
32 whose chances or plays are represented by such money or records, or (b)  
33 more than five hundred dollars in any one day of money played in such  
34 scheme or enterprise; OR

35 3. RECEIVING FROM ANY UNLAWFUL GAMBLING ACTIVITIES, OTHER THAN THOSE  
36 DESCRIBED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OR TWO OF THIS SECTION, MORE THAN FIVE  
37 THOUSAND DOLLARS IN ANY ONE DAY.

38 Promoting gambling in the first degree is a class E felony.

39 S 5. This act shall take effect on the first of November next succeed-  
40 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.