



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5306

February Session, 2018



**AN ACT CONCERNING A STRATEGIC PLAN TO EXPAND GAMBLING
IN CONNECTICUT.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than ninety days after
2 the effective date of this section, the Commissioner of Consumer
3 Protection shall develop and issue a request for proposals for
4 professional services to recommend a strategic plan to expand
5 gambling in the state. The professional service provider shall have
6 expertise in advising state legislatures on issues related to gambling
7 and the expansion of gambling.

8 (b) At a minimum, the strategic plan shall:

9 (1) Analyze the economic impacts of all legal and current forms of
10 gambling in the state, including, but not limited to, gambling at casino
11 gaming facilities, and gambling facilitated by the Connecticut Lottery
12 Corporation and off-track betting facilities;

13 (2) Contain a fiscal analysis to determine the impact of expanding
14 gambling in the state (A) by amending the procedures, compact and
15 agreements entered into by and between the state and the
16 Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and the state and the Mohegan Tribe of
17 Indians of Connecticut, and (B) without amending such procedures,
18 compact and agreements;

19 (3) Identify the various approaches to expanding gambling in the
20 state and analyze the economic impact and the fiscal and legal
21 consequences if the state authorizes (A) any person, business entity or
22 Indian tribe to operate one or more commercial casino gaming facilities
23 within the state, (B) the Connecticut Lottery Corporation to sell tickets
24 for lottery draw games online and accept payment through the use of a
25 credit card, (C) the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, off-track betting
26 facilities, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or the Mohegan Tribe of
27 Indians of Connecticut, or any combination thereof, to conduct
28 wagering on sporting events to the extent permitted by federal law,
29 and (D) the operation of fantasy contests in the state without amending
30 such procedures, compact and agreements; and

31 (4) Recommend a strategic plan that (A) implements the expansion
32 of gambling in the state, (B) establishes a quasi-public agency to
33 regulate and oversee such expansion, (C) provides for the taxation of
34 such expansion, and (D) includes best practices to protect the public
35 interest in the integrity of gambling operations and reduce the dangers
36 of unsuitable, unfair or illegal practices, methods and activities in such
37 operations.

38 (c) Not later than January 1, 2019, the commissioner shall submit the
39 strategic plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
40 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
41 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and
42 security.

43 (d) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Connecticut
44 Lottery Corporation shall provide any information and data needed by
45 the professional service provider to complete the strategic plan,
46 provided the information and data does not disclose the identity of
47 any individual.

48 (e) The Connecticut Lottery Corporation shall expend unclaimed
49 prize funds to pay the cost of the strategic plan.

50 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Consumer
51 Protection shall engage an independent third party to study the social
52 effects of legalized gambling on the citizens of this state and to make
53 recommendations regarding ways to mitigate the potential negative
54 public health consequences associated with gambling if (1) the state
55 authorizes any person, business entity or Indian tribe to operate one or
56 more commercial casino gaming facilities within the state and such
57 facilities become operational, (2) the state authorizes the Connecticut
58 Lottery Corporation to sell tickets for lottery draw games online and
59 accept payment through the use of a credit card, (3) the state
60 authorizes the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, off-track betting
61 facilities, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or the Mohegan Tribe of
62 Indians of Connecticut, or any combination thereof, to conduct
63 wagering on sporting events to the extent permitted by federal law, or
64 (4) fantasy contest operators offer fantasy contests in the state. Not
65 later than January 1, 2019, the commissioner shall submit the findings
66 of the study and the recommendations, in accordance with the
67 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
68 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
69 relating to public safety and security.

70 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 12-564 of the general statutes is
71 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
72 *passage*):

73 (b) The commissioner shall conduct studies concerning the effect of
74 legalized gambling on the citizens of this state including, but not
75 limited to, studies to determine the types of gambling activity engaged
76 in by the public and the desirability of expanding, maintaining or
77 reducing the amount of legalized gambling permitted in this state.
78 Such studies shall be conducted as often as the commissioner deems
79 necessary, except that no studies shall be conducted before the fiscal
80 year ending June 30, [2009] 2028, and thereafter studies shall be
81 conducted at least once every ten years. The commissioner shall
82 submit the findings of such studies and the costs of conducting such

83 studies to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
84 having cognizance of matters relating to [legalized gambling shall each
85 receive a report concerning each study carried out, stating the findings
86 of the study and the costs of conducting the study] public safety and
87 security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	12-564(b)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(b)(1), "gambling" was inserted before "at" and "and gambling facilitated by" was inserted before "the Connecticut" for clarity and in Section 1(b)(2), "Perform" was changed to "Contain" for accuracy.

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*