

ASSEMBLY, No. 2701

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 1997

By Assemblymen LeFEVRE and BLEE

1 AN ACT concerning shipboard gambling and supplementing chapter 37
2 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. A person is guilty of shipboard gambling when he:

8 (1) engages in any gambling activity prohibited under this chapter
9 on a vessel that embarks from any point within the State, and
10 disembarks at the same or another point within the State, during which
11 time he knowingly causes or permits such gambling activity to be
12 conducted, whether within or without the waters of the State; or

13 (2) manages, supervises, controls, operates or owns any vessel that
14 embarks from any point within the State, and disembarks at the same
15 or another point within the State, during which time he knowingly
16 causes or permits any gambling activity prohibited under this chapter,
17 whether within or without the waters of the State.

18 b. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection a. of this
19 section is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

20 c. This section shall not apply to gambling activity conducted on
21 United States-flagged or foreign-flagged vessels during travel from a
22 foreign nation or another state or possession of the United States up
23 to the point of first entry into New Jersey waters, provided that
24 nothing herein shall preclude prosecution for any other offense under
25 this chapter.

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27 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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32 The purpose of this bill is to prohibit gambling aboard vessels that
33 embark and disembark from any point within this State. Federal law
34 permits gambling cruises, but also specifically allows the State to pass
35 legislation outlawing cruises that both embark and disembark within
36 the State. California has already passed legislation outlawing such
37 cruises. This legislation would therefore prohibit "cruises to

1 nowhere," which operate out of New Jersey ports for the purpose of
2 conducting offshore gambling activities.

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7 Prohibits shipboard gambling on vessels that embark and disembark
8 from any point within the State.