

Blackjack Devices to Count Cards Barred by Nevada Assembly

CARSON CITY, Nev. (P)—A bill barring blackjack players from using hidden card-counting computers won final legislative approval today on a unanimous Nevada Assembly vote.

The card-counting bill is aimed at stopping the use of computerized card-counting devices that can be purchased for up to \$3,000 in Southern California and elsewhere.

Under the measure, anyone caught with such equipment could be punished by a prison sentence of up to 10 years and fines up to \$10,000.

Another measure, allowing use of cashless slot machines, cleared the state Senate and moved to the Assembly. That bill would allow the use of "credit-card" slot machines.

Senate Bill No. 467—Senators Wagner, Foley, Bilbray, Ryan, Rawson and Hickey

AN ACT relating to gaming; prohibiting the use of a device for calculating probabilities; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

[Approved May 30, 1985]

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND

ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 465 of NRS is hereby amended by adding there to a new section to read as follows:

It is unlawful for any person at a licensed gaming establishment to use, or possess with the intent to use, any device to assist:

1. In projecting the outcome of the game;
2. In keeping track of the cards played;
3. In analyzing the probability of the occurrence of an event relating to the game; or
4. In analyzing the strategy for playing or betting to be used in the game, except as permitted by the commission.

Sec. 2. NRS 465.088 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. Any person who violates any provision of NRS 465.070 to 465.085, inclusive, or section 1 of this act shall be punished:
 - a. For the first offense, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 1 year nor more than 10 years, or by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by both fine and imprisonment.
 - b. For a second or subsequent violation of any of these provisions, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 1 year nor more than 10 years, and may be further punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000. The court shall not suspend a sentence of imprisonment imposed pursuant to this paragraph, or grant probation to the person convicted.
2. Any person who attempts, or two or more persons who conspire, to violate any provision of NRS 465.070 to 465.085, inclusive, or section 1 of this act each shall be punished by imposing the penalty provided in subsection 1 for the completed crime, whether or not he personally played any gambling game or used any prohibited device . [to cheat or facilitate cheating.]