File	No.	140	106
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Committee Iten	
Board Item No.	19

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee	Date	
Board of Supervisors Meeting	Date <u>February 11, 201</u>	
Cmte Board	d/or Report	
OTHER (Use back side if additional space is Assembly Bill 1439		
Completed by: <u>Joy Lamug</u> Date Date Date	ebruary 6, 2014	

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 20 pages. The complete document is in the file.

[Supporting Assembly Bill 1439 (Salas) - Prohibiting Sweepstakes Gambling Cafes]

Resolution supporting Assembly Bill 1439, authored by Assemblymember Rudy Salas, which would prohibit the operation of gambling themed or simulated gambling electronic video monitors at Internet sweepstakes businesses.

WHEREAS, Internet cafes are setting up computers that allow customers to wager funds on gambling-themed games that simulate those found in casinos; and

WHEREAS, These internet cafes are thinly veiled gambling operations that have been able to operate because of poor definition in the law; and

WHEREAS, Local business owners have voiced concerns about the negative consequences of these establishments, including dramatic increases in criminal activity, increases in public nuisance complaints, and unnecessary drains on law enforcement resources; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has recently reached a settlement against the proprietors, landlords, and software provider to Net Stop Business Center, a local internet café, after a year-long effort by community members and at great expense to the City's police and enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, In January of 2014, Assemblymember Rudy Salas introduced Assembly Bill 1439 (AB 1439) to fight the rising number of illegal sweepstakes gambling cafes throughout California, and provide local law enforcement the necessary tools for greater local control of this serious public safety issue; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby supports California Assembly Bill 1439 and directs the Clerk of the Board to communicate this support to the California State Legislature.

Introduced by Assembly Member Salas (Coauthors: Assembly Members Bonilla, Bonta, Ian Calderon, Campos, Conway, Cooley, Daly, Fox, Gonzalez, Gray, Grove, Levine, Medina, Melendez, Nazarian, Perea, Quirk-Silva, Rendon, Ting, and Waldron)

(Coauthor: Senator Lara)

January 6, 2014

An act to amend Section 17539.1 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to sweepstakes.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1439, as introduced, Salas. Sweepstakes.

Existing law prohibits certain unfair acts or practices undertaken by, or omissions of, any person in the operation of a contest, as described, including, among other things, misrepresenting the odds of winning any prize or failing to award and distribute all prizes, as specified. A violation of this provision is a misdemeanor.

This bill would make the provision described above applicable to unfair acts or practices undertaken by, or omissions of, any person in the operation of a sweepstakes, as defined. The bill would also prohibit using any method intended to be used by a person interacting with a gambling-themed or simulated gambling electronic video monitor in a business establishment that directly or indirectly implements the predetermination of sweepstakes cash, cash-equivalent prizes, or other prizes of value, or otherwise connects a sweepstakes player or participant with sweepstakes cash, cash-equivalent prizes, or other prizes of value.

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By creating new crimes, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 17539.1 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

17539.1. (a) The following unfair acts or practices undertaken by, or omissions of, any person in the operation of any contest *or* sweepstakes are prohibited:

- (1) Failing to clearly and conspicuously disclose, at the time of the initial contest solicitation, at the time of each precontest promotional solicitation and each time the payment of money is required to become or to remain a contestant, the total number of contestants anticipated based on prior experience and the percentages of contestants correctly solving each puzzle used in the three most recently completed contests conducted by the person. If the person has not operated or promoted three contests he shall disclose for each prior contest if any, the information required by this section.
- (2) Failing to promptly send to each member of the public upon his request, the actual number and percentage of contestants correctly solving each puzzle or game in the contest most recently completed.
- (3) Misrepresenting in any manner the odds of winning any prize.
- (4) Misrepresenting in any manner, the rules, terms, or conditions of participation in a contest.
- (5) Failing to clearly and conspicuously disclose with all contest puzzles and games and with all promotional puzzles and games all of the following:
- (A) The maximum number of puzzles or games which may be necessary to complete the contest and determine winners.

--3- AB 1439

(B) The maximum amount of money, including the maximum cost of any postage and handling fees, which a participant may be asked to pay to win each of the contest prizes then offered.

(C) That future puzzles or games, if any, or tie breakers, if any, will be significantly more difficult than the initial puzzle.

- (D) The date or dates on or before which the contest will terminate and upon which all prizes will be awarded.
- (E) The method of determining prizewinners if a tie remains after the last tie breaker puzzle is completed.
 - (F) All rules, regulations, terms, and conditions of the contest.
- (6) Failing to clearly and conspicuously disclose the exact nature and approximate value of the prizes when offered.
- (7) Failing to award and distribute all prizes of the value and type represented.
- (8) Representing directly or by implication that the number of participants has been significantly limited, or that any particular person has been selected to win a prize unless such is the fact.
- (9) Representing directly or by implication that any particular person has won any money, prize, thing, or other value in a contest unless there has been a real contest in which a meaningful percentage, which shall be at least a majority, of the participants in such contests have failed to win a prize, money, thing, or other value.
- (10) Representing directly or by implication that any particular person has won any money, prize, thing, or other value without disclosing the exact nature and approximate value thereof.
- (11) Using the word "lucky" to describe any number, ticket, coupon, symbol, or other entry, or representing in any other manner directly or by implication that any number, ticket, coupon, symbol, or other entry confers or will confer an advantage upon the recipient that other recipients will not have, that the recipient is more likely to win a prize than are others, or that the number, ticket, coupon, symbol or other entry has some value that other entries do not have.
- (12) Using any method intended to be used by a person interacting with a gambling-themed or simulated gambling electronic video monitor in a business establishment that directly or indirectly implements the predetermination of sweepstakes cash, cash-equivalent prizes, or other prizes of value, or otherwise

1 connects a sweepstakes player or participant with sweepstakes 2 cash, cash-equivalent prizes, or other prizes of value.

(12)

(13) Failing to obtain the express written or oral consent of individuals before their names are used for a promotional purpose in connection with a mailing to a third person.

(13)

(14) Using or distributing simulated checks, currency, or any simulated item of value unless there is clearly and conspicuously printed thereon the words: SPECIMEN—NONNEGOTIABLE.

(14)

- (15) Representing, directly or by implication, orally or in writing, that any tie breaker puzzle may be entered upon the payment of money qualifying the contestant for an extra cash or any other type prize or prizes unless:
- (A) It is clearly and conspicuously disclosed that the payments are optional and that contestants are not required to pay money, except for reasonable postage and handling fees, to play for an extra cash or any other type of prize or prizes; and
- (B) Contestants are clearly and conspicuously given the opportunity to indicate they wish to enter such phase of the contest for free, except for reasonable postage and handling fees the amount of which shall not exceed one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) plus the actual cost of postage and which shall be clearly and conspicuously disclosed at the time of the initial contest solicitation and each time thereafter that the payment of such fees is required. The contestants' opportunity to indicate they wish to enter for free shall be in immediate conjunction with and in a like manner as the contestants' opportunity to indicate they wish to play for an extra prize.
- (b) For the purposes of this section, "sweepstakes" means a procedure, activity, or event, for the distribution, donation, or sale of anything of value by lot, chance, predetermined selection, or random selection that is not unlawful under other provisions of law, including, but not limited to, Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 319) and Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 330) of

37 Title 9 of Part 1 of the Penal Code.

38 (b)

- (c) This section does not apply to an advertising plan or program that is regulated by, and complies with, the requirements of Section 17537.1.
- (d) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to render lawful any activity that is unlawful pursuant to other law, including, but not limited to, Section 320, 330a, 330b, 330.1, or 337j of the Penal Code.
- SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
- 12 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
- 13 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
- 14 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
- 15 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California
- 16 Constitution.

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Print Form -

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Boat 1 of Supervisors or the Mayor

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):	Time stamp or meeting date
1. For reference to Committee.	
An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment. 2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee.	
3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.	
4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor	inquires"
5. City Attorney request.	
6. Call File No. from Committee.	
7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).	
8. Substitute Legislation File No.	
9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).	
☐ 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.	
11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	
Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following Small Business Commission	nmission
☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commis	
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperati	ve
ponsor(s):	
Supervisor Avalos	·
Subject: Supporting Assembly Bill 1439, Prohibiting Sweepstakes Gambling Cafes	
Supporting Assembly Bin 1432, 110mbiting Sweepstates Camering Care	
The text is listed below or attached:	
Resolution supporting Assembly Bill 1439, authored by Assemblymember Rudy Salas, which operation of gambling themed or simulated gambling electronic video monitors at Internet swe	would prohibit the epstakes businesses.
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	iah
For Clerk's Use Only:	