

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill modifies several provisions of Minnesota law regulating the operation of card clubs at licensed racetrack facilities. It allows card clubs to begin conducting banked card games, in addition to the unbanked card games allowed under current law. The banked card games could be conducted using either tangible cards or using electronic images. It also eliminates the current statutory cap on the number of tables that can be used for card playing at a card club.

Section

- 1 Card playing. Modifies the definition of card playing, with respect to card playing at authorized card clubs, to include banked card games (wagering systems or games where individuals compete and wager against the sponsor of the game or the house). Under current law, card playing is defined to include only unbanked card games (games in which individuals compete and wager against *each other*).
- 2 Banked. Defines the term "banked" to mean a wagering system or game where participants play against the sponsor or the house. Allows banked card games to be conducted using either (1) tangible cards, or (2) electronic images at a table with other players or at an individual station.
- 3 Type of wagering. Specifies that card club wagering activities may be conducted in a banked or unbanked system. Current law limits card club wagering activities to those conducted in an unbanked system.
- 4 Plan of operation. Requires the operator of a card club to submit separate plans of operation for: (1) the operation of a banked system of card playing activities, and (2) the operation of

an unbanked system of card playing activities. Under current law, the operator of a card club must submit a single plan of operation to the Racing Commission for approval prior to beginning operations.

- 5 Limitations (card clubs). Eliminates the requirement that any card club plan of operation approved by the Racing Commission must specify that no more than 50 tables will be used for card playing at the card club.