Overview

This bill creates a new crime applicable to a variety of fraudulent activities relating to lawful gambling.

1  **Lawful gambling fraud.**

   **Subd. 1. Crime.** Creates a new crime applicable to the following activities relating to lawful gambling:
   
   knowingly claiming a lawful gambling prize using altered or counterfeited gambling equipment;
   
   knowingly claiming a lawful gambling prize by means of fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation;
   
   manipulating any form of lawful gambling or tampering with any gambling equipment with intent to influence the outcome of a game or the receipt of a prize; or
   
   knowingly placing or using false information on a prize receipt or other approved form.

   **Subd. 2. Penalty.** Imposes the following penalties on violations of subdivision 1:
   
   a misdemeanor, if the dollar amount involved is $500 or less;
   
   a gross misdemeanor, if the dollar amount involved is between $500 and $2,500; and
   
   a felony (up to three years imprisonment and/or $6,000 fine), if the dollar amount is more than $2,500.

   Also permits the aggregation of dollar amounts for charging purposes when the acts are committed within the same 12-month period.

2  **Effective date.** August 1, 2000, for crimes committed on or after that date.