

**Senate File 2134 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2134  
BY GREEN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to gambling, including social gambling between  
2 individuals and the operation of poker card rooms, and  
3 providing fees.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 99B.45, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code  
2 2026, is amended by striking the paragraph and inserting in lieu  
3 thereof the following:

4 a. Card and parlor games, including but not limited to poker,  
5 pinochle, pitch, gin rummy, bridge, euchre, hearts, cribbage,  
6 dominoes, checkers, chess, backgammon, pool, and darts.

7 Sec. 2. Section 99F.1, Code 2026, is amended by adding the  
8 following new subsections:

9 NEW SUBSECTION. 23A. "*Poker card room*" means a gambling  
10 structure licensed under this chapter that offers poker games to  
11 the public but does not offer sports wagering, other forms of  
12 gambling games pursuant to this chapter, or pari-mutuel wagering  
13 pursuant to chapter 99D.

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 23B. "*Poker variant*" means any form of  
15 poker using playing cards, including but not limited to Texas  
16 hold 'em, Omaha, seven-card stud, razz, draw poker, and any other  
17 recognized poker game or variation approved by the commission by  
18 rule.

19 NEW SUBSECTION. 27A. "*Rake*" means a fee charged by the  
20 operator of a poker card room for providing the poker game,  
21 collected from each pot or on a length-of-time basis, not to  
22 exceed limits established by the commission by rule.

23 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **99F.5B License to operate poker card**  
24 **room.**

25 1. A person may apply to the commission for a license to  
26 operate a poker card room as provided in this section.

27 2. A poker card room may offer any poker variant to persons  
28 twenty-one years of age or older.

29 3. A poker card room may charge a rake as provided by the  
30 commission by rule. The commission shall establish maximum  
31 rake percentages or structures to ensure fairness and prevent  
32 excessive fees.

33 4. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
34 17A for the licensing, operation, and regulation of, and the  
35 collection of taxes imposed pursuant to section 99F.11 from,

1 poker card rooms, including but not limited to licensing  
2 fees, background checks, facility standards, game integrity,  
3 recordkeeping, anti-money laundering measures, and consumer  
4 protection. Licensing fees collected under this subsection shall  
5 be deposited in the general fund of the state.

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EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

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the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

9 This bill changes the list of games allowed as social gambling  
10 between individuals from games of skill and games of chance,  
11 except casino-style games other than poker, to instead include  
12 card and parlor games, including but not limited to poker,  
13 pinochle, pitch, gin rummy, bridge, euchre, hearts, cribbage,  
14 dominoes, checkers, chess, backgammon, pool, and darts.

15 The bill allows a person to apply to the state racing and  
16 gaming commission (commission) for a license to operate a poker  
17 card room, defined in the bill as a gambling structure that  
18 offers poker games, including poker variants, to the public but  
19 does not offer any other form of gambling game or wagering. The  
20 bill allows a poker card room to offer poker games to persons  
21 21 years of age and older and to charge a rake, defined in  
22 the bill as a fee charged by the operator of a poker card room  
23 for providing the poker game, collected from each pot or on a  
24 length-of-time basis. The bill requires the commission to adopt  
25 rules setting maximum rake percentages or structures, as well as  
26 rules for the licensing, operation, taxation, and regulation of  
27 poker card rooms, including a license fee to be deposited in the  
28 general fund of the state.