

Agency Activity Inventory by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2003-05 Activity Version: 2004 Sup w/ Alloc & Activities

Agency: 117 - Washington State Gambling Comm

Gambling Licensing, Background and Financial Investigations

The Washington State Gambling Commission is statutorily charged with the power to enforce the provisions of the Gambling Act of 1973 and all laws related to gambling. The legislative policy declares the intent is to keep the criminal element out of gambling, promote social welfare through strict regulation and control, and that raising funds for the promotion of nonprofit and charitable organizations is in the public interest. The Commission carries out this responsibility through a system of regulation and enforcement consisting of several interrelated activities. The Commission requires that individuals and businesses apply for and obtain a license before engaging in gambling activity. The application and approval process includes an extensive investigation process which traces the source of funds and identifies criminal records to prevent criminal interests from gaining a foothold in Washington gambling businesses and protects the public from being victimized through cheating or embezzlement. The licensing process is required by statute to generate the funds necessary to cover all costs of licensing and enforcement. (Gambling Revolving Account-Nonappropriated)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the safety of people and property

Category: Prevent crime

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$2,872,000	\$0	\$2,872,000	40.0	\$2,866,000	\$0	\$2,866,000	42.0

Expected Results:

The number of individual criminal background investigations completed.

General Enforcement and Criminal Intelligence Investigation

The Commission uses a combination of undercover and overt investigations to identify and seek prosecution of illegal gambling activities, cheating, theft, and racketeering. These investigations seek to identify those individuals or interests that pose a threat to public safety and honest gambling. As a result, the agency has sought prosecution for bookmakers with organized crime links, cheaters who have gained thousands of dollars, and employees of charitable organizations who, in some cases, embezzled more than \$25,000. The Commission also uses administrative rules and regulatory enforcement to ensure gambling is legal and honest, and protects the internal controls and records necessary to support the \$44.3 million collected by local governments annually in local taxes. (Gambling Revolving Account-Nonappropriated)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the safety of people and property

Category: Prevent crime

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$7,028,000	\$0	\$7,028,000	94.3	\$8,362,000	\$0	\$8,362,000	99.7

Expected Results:

The number of compliance inspections conducted at licensed premises.

Tribal-State Compact Negotiation, Regulation Program, and Investigations

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Federal law requires the state to negotiate in good faith with Indian tribes to provide these sovereign nations the opportunity to engage in casino-type gambling activities that are allowed in some form in the state of Washington. The tribes are only allowed to engage in these activities through a compact with the state. The Commission has been delegated the responsibility to negotiate these compacts and jointly regulates these activities with the tribes. As of June 30, 2002, the Commission had negotiated 25 compacts that had net gambling receipts of more than \$422 million in 2001. The primary purpose of the state's involvement is public protection and ensuring legal and honest gambling activities. (Gambling Revolving Account-Nonappropriated)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the safety of people and property

Category: Prevent crime

FY 2004				FY 2005			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$3,067,000	\$0	\$3,067,000	39.0	\$3,061,000	\$0	\$3,061,000	41.0

Expected Results:

The number of individual criminal background investigations completed.

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