

# ARIZONA STATE SENATE

## RESEARCH STAFF



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TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE  
FINANCE & COMMERCE COMMITTEE

DATE: February 08, 2024

SUBJECT: Strike everything amendment to S.B. 1689, relating to gaming; seating capacity

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### Purpose

Bifurcates the definition of *sports facility*, for the purposes of event wagering, by specifying that the 10,000-person facility seating capacity requirement may be met at the facility's primary facility in both the playing area and the area contiguous to the playing area in a county with a population of fewer than 4,000,000 persons.

### Background

The following entities are eligible for an event wagering operator license: 1) an Indian tribe, or entity fully owned by an Indian tribe, or its designee contracted to operate mobile event wagering in Arizona but outside the boundaries of its lands; and 2) an owner of an Arizona professional sports team or franchise, an operator of a sports facility that hosts an annual tournament on the PGA Tour, a promoter of a national association for stock car auto racing national touring race in Arizona or the owner's, operator's or promoter's designee contracted to operate both retail event wagering at a sports facility or complex and mobile event wagering throughout Arizona.

A *sports facility* is a facility that is owned by a commercial, state or local government or quasi-governmental entity that hosts professional sports events and that holds a seating capacity of more than 10,000 persons at its primary facility, one location in Arizona that hosts an annual golf tournament on the PGA tour and one location that holds an outdoor motorsports facility that hosts a national association for stock car auto racing national touring race.

An event wagering operator licensee that is not an Indian tribe or tribal-owned entity may offer: 1) event wagering at an event wagering facility within a five-block radius of the operator's sports facility; and 2) mobile event wagering, including through an event wagering platform, as the Arizona Department of Gaming specifies (A.R.S. §§ [5-1301](#) and [5-1304](#))

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

### Provisions

1. Modifies the definition of *sports facility*, for the purposes of event wagering and for a county with a population of fewer than 4,000,000 persons, by specifying that the 10,000-person facility seating capacity requirement may be met at the facility's primary facility in both the playing area and the area contiguous to the playing area as long as the building where the team plays has the requisite capacity to market, sell and make available for use 10,000 set as.

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2. Specifies that the existing seating capacity requirement applies to a county with a population of 4,000,000 persons or more.
3. Makes technical and conforming changes.
4. Becomes effective on the general effective date.