RECREATIONAL
GAMING
ASSOCIATION

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July 20, 2016

Washington State Gambling Commission
P.O. Box 42400
Olympia, WA 98504-2400

RE: Petition for Rule Change:
WAC 230-15-140 - Wagering limits for house-banked games

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of our members, we respectfully submit the attached rule change for your review and consideration.

This change would authorize licensees to allow patrons to make wagers up to $500 on house-banked games offered in licensed, house banked card rooms.

Come January 2017, our members will need a mechanism to increase gambling receipts as they are unable to pass on the inevitable increased expenses:

- Proposed restructure and increase of WSGC license fees which may result in some HBCR licensees seeing up to a 150-200% increase;
- Passage of Initiative 1433 raising the minimum wage January 2, 2017 to $11.00/hour; $11.50 in 2018; $12.00 in 2019 and $13.50 in 2020 respectively; and,
- Mandated benefits: health care, paid sick/safe leave, and predictive scheduling initiatives

We anticipate letters of support from house banked card room patrons and licensees will ensue once the petitions appear on the Commission's formal agenda.

We request that the Commission consider filing this petition for further discussion.

Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dolores A. Chiechi
Dolores A. Chiechi
Executive Director

Attachment

WAC 230-15-140 - REVISED

Wagering limits for house-banked card games.

(1) A single wager or a bonus wager for an odds-based pay out must not exceed ~~three~~ five hundred dollars.

(2) A player may make a single wager for each decision before the dealer deals or reveals additional cards. For Blackjack, the player may place an additional wager for doubling down or splitting pairs.

(3) Bonus wagers for progressive jackpots must not exceed manufacturer's rules or limits listed in subsection (1) of this section.