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Gambling 2.0: A Study of US Legislation on Internet Gambling —Also with the Respect of Taiwan Criminal Law

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Abstract

The recent development of internet and digital technology has changed the gambling industry. The traditional gambling business which has operated for hundreds of years is decaying, and the modern internet gambling which can operate non-stop across the border is growing rapidly. However, in the mean time, there are no globally convergent opinions about internet gambling. Currently, internet gambling is still illegal in most of countries where traditional gambling is permitted. Even in the US, a country where traditional gambling has been lawful for a long time, there has been much controversy and dispute over the issues of governing internet gambling. The US Federal Government not only clearly declared its position of against internet gambling right after the first internet gambling website was established, it also passed a bill, the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006, to reinforce its attitude towards this issue. However, some state governments still decided to legitimate internet gambling due to its enormously potential earnings and tax benefits. For example, internet gambling and mobile gambling was permitted in 2001 and 2005 respectively in Nevada State. In this study, I will focus on the relevant federal laws and Nevada State laws regard to internet gam-

bling. I hope my in-depth study on their differences can result in a thorough understanding of internet gambling. Moreover, it is worth to know whether our Criminal Law has different point of view on traditional gambling and internet gambling, despite any kind of gambling is prohibited in Taiwan.

Keywords: Internet Gambling, Mobile Gambling, Wire Act of 1961, Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006, Nevada State, Criminal Law, Youth Gambling, Pathological Gambling, Money Laundering