TITLE 18 - CRIMES AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE
PART I - CRIMES
CHAPTER 53 - INDIANS

§ 1166. Gambling in Indian country

(a) Subject to subsection (c), for purposes of Federal law, all State laws pertaining to the licensing,
regulation, or prohibition of gambling, including but not limited to criminal sanctions applicable
thereto, shall apply in Indian country in the same manner and to the same extent as such laws apply
elsewhere in the State.

(b) Whoever in Indian country is guilty of any act or omission involving gambling, whether or not
conducted or sanctioned by an Indian tribe, which, although not made punishable by any enactment of
Congress, would be punishable if committed or omitted within the jurisdiction of the State in which the
act or omission occurred, under the laws governing the licensing, regulation, or prohibition of gambling
in force at the time of such act or omission, shall be guilty of a like offense and subject to a like
punishment.

(c) For the purpose of this section, the term “gambling” does not include—

(1) class I gaming or class II gaming regulated by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, or

(2) class III gaming conducted under a Tribal-State compact approved by the Secretary of the
Interior under section 11(d)(8) of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act that is in effect.

(d) The United States shall have exclusive jurisdiction over criminal prosecutions of violations of State
gambling laws that are made applicable under this section to Indian country, unless an Indian tribe
pursuant to a Tribal-State compact approved by the Secretary of the Interior under section 11(d)(8) of
the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, or under any other provision of Federal law, has consented to the
transfer to the State of criminal jurisdiction with respect to gambling on the lands of the Indian tribe.


References in Text

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, referred to in subsec. (c), is Pub. L. 100–497, Oct. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 2467, which
enacted sections 1166 to 1168 of this title and chapter 25 (§ 2701 et seq.) of Title 25, Indians. Section 11(d)(8) of such
Act is classified to section 2710 (d)(8) of Title 25. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title
note set out under section 2701 of Title 25 and Tables.