

All eyes were on Gov. Phil Murphy on Thursday <http://www.bengalsauthorizedshops.com/authentic-jessie-bates-iii-jersey>, immediately after the state Assembly and Senate unanimously passed a bill to allow sports betting three weeks after winning a U.S. Supreme Court case that cleared the way for them and all other states to do so.

He said he wants to act quickly, but the legislation will be subject to the same thorough review that all legislation sent to him for signature is subject to, said his spokesman, Dan Bryan.

While some top lawmakers said they expected Monmouth Park, a racetrack near the Jersey shore in Oceanport Derrick Nnadi Color Rush Jersey , to begin taking bets Friday, others said they expected Murphy to consider the bill during the weekend before acting.

Adding to the confusion was an action the legislators took before approving the bill: They stripped out a provision that would have prohibited any casino or track from beginning to offer sports betting before the bill was signed. Republican state Sen. Declan O Scanlan said that technically enabled Monmouth to begin taking sports bets right away.

John Heims, a spokesman for the track, said it would not take any sports bets Thursday night, adding it should know soon when we are starting. Other first-day movers would likely include Atlantic City's Borgata casino.

Three weeks ago, New Jersey prevailed in a Supreme Court case that struck down a federal law limiting sports betting to just four states. Now, any state is free to adopt laws legalizing it Darius Leonard Color Rush Jersey , and analysts expect most to do so. A report this week by Eilers & Krejcik Gaming predicted that only six states will not have approved sports betting by 2023.

Former state Sen. Raymond Lesniak, who led the fight for sports betting for eight years, predicted it will help turn around Atlantic City, where casino gambling had been in decline. The state's casinos and racetracks would be able to offer sports betting once the governor signs the bill.

Today is the day that New Jersey gets the same benefits that Las Vegas does, he said. During the Super Bowl or the NACC Tournament, in Las Vegas you can't get a hotel room and Atlantic City is a ghost town. This will change that.

Three of the professional sports leagues were not happy over the lack of integrity fee payments they say would help them police betting patterns and called for better information sharing. In a joint statement, Major League Baseball <http://www.49ersauthorizedshops.com/authentic-dante-pettis-jersey> , the NBA and the PGA Golf Tournament called on Murphy to fix the bill before acting on it.

The legislation does not include basic protections to mitigate risks to the integrity of sports and to ensure fairness for New Jersey consumers, they said. The bill allows for the creation of non-transparent betting markets that deny sports leagues critical tools to monitor betting activity and conduct integrity investigations. Additionally, the bill does not require casinos or the regulator to notify sports leagues of potential match fixing or other improper conduct.

The bill would allow Atlantic City casinos and racetracks, including Monmouth, the Meadowlands and Freehold Raceway, to offer sports betting. A provision also would allow it at the former Atlantic City Race Course if that facility were to reopen.

The bill sets the tax rate for casinos at 8.5 percent, with an additional 1.25 percent payment to help market Atlantic City. The 1.25 percent add-on fee for tracks would be split among the host community and the county in which the track operates. Internet bets would be taxed at 13 percent.

Internet betting would begin 30 days after the rest of the law takes effect.

The bill also clears away obstacles for any of Atlantic City's casinos to offer sports betting. D.J. Fluker Color Rush Jersey, adding clauses to allow the Borgata, Caesars, Harrah's, Bally's and the Golden Nugget to offer sports bets despite ownership or partial ownership of professional sports teams.

A last-minute change allowed the Golden Nugget to take sports bets, despite the fact that its owner, Texas Billionaire Tilman Fertitta, also owns the NBA's Houston Rockets. The bill previously shut the Golden Nugget out of sports betting <http://www.saintsauthorizedshops.com/authentic-marcus-davenport-jersey>, but a change allowed it to offer bets on

sports other than basketball.

Fertitta thanked New Jersey for making the change and said he eventually hopes to convince state regulators to let the Golden Nugget take bets on basketball teams other than the Rockets, as Nevada regulators allow.

Follow Wayne Parry at Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles had surgery on his right wrist last week to fix a problem that kept him on the injury report all season.

The team confirmed the surgery Tuesday. ESPN first reported the surgery.

Bortles dealt with the issue in his throwing wrist throughout the season. He appeared on the injury report every week but did not miss a practice or a game.

Jacksonville picked up the fifth-year option in Bortles' rookie contract last year, guaranteeing him \$19 million in 2018 if he is on Jacksonville's roster the first day of the league year in March. The Jaguars are prohibited from cutting Bortles if he is hurt or recovering from an injury.

Bortles completed 60 percent of his passes in 2017, with 21 touchdowns and 13 interceptions. He also was sacked a career-low 24 times.

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