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Schmidt: Fantasy Sports OK In Kansas

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt says a legislative proposal to legalize fantasy sports leagues doesn't violate the state constitution's ban on private lotteries.

Schmidt issued a legal opinion Friday at the request of a Kansas House member who opposes gambling.

In defining fantasy sports, the proposal says they're contests determined by the skill of the participants. Schmidt said one key element of a lottery is that chance determines the outcome.

The Kansas Constitution bans lotteries other than the one operated by the state.

The state Racing and Gaming Commission announced last year that it views private fantasy sports leagues as illegal lotteries, but it has not pushed for enforcement.

Fantasy sports players compete by creating digital teams from a pool of real athletes and tracking their performances.

Associated Press