



California Entertainment Machine Association

Representing the Amusement Industry in California

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● URGENT: Help Protect Claw Machines in California!

Urgent action required as the DOJ is currently reviewing the legality of CA claw machines – CEMA represents California stakeholders and now needs your support.

Operators, FEC owners, manufacturers, distributors and suppliers would all be affected.

Claw machines are under threat—and so is your business.

In 2010, California's Bureau of Gambling Control (BGC) claimed **all claw machines are illegal gambling devices**. But that opinion is outdated and doesn't reflect how today's machines actually work.

We need your voice to help protect **skill-based and ticket-dispensing claw machines**—a vital part of family entertainment centers across the state.

✓ What You Need to Know

🎯 California Law Allows Skill-Based Games

Under **Penal Code § 330b(f)**, machines that rely on skill—like skeeball and basketball—are legal. Claw machines that require precision, timing, and practice fall into the same category.

🎯 Gambling = Chance, Not Skill

For a machine to be gambling under CA law, it must:

- ◆ Be a device
- ◆ Require payment to play
- ◆ Award prizes **based on chance**

Modern claw machines reward SKILL, not chance.

🎯 Modern Claw Machines Are Not Random

Today's machines:

- ✓ Allow full player control
- ✓ Use consistent grip strength
- ✓ Reward timing, aim, and strategy
- ✓ Offer fair chances to win

🎯 The 2010 Opinion is Outdated

That ruling was based on 1950s machines.

It ignores modern features and advancements in skill-based play.

★ **TAKE ACTION NOW** Help us set the record straight and keep skill-based claw machines legal in California.

👉 [SCAN QSR TO SIGN SUPPORT FORM](#)

