

HOUSE BILL 1647

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By: **Delegates R. Watson, Charles, Johnson, Mosby, Turner, Valderrama, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: February 27, 2020

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Gaming – Task Force to Study Online Gaming**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Online Gaming; providing for the
4 composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task
5 Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of
6 certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations
7 regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and
8 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain
9 date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task
10 Force to Study Online Gaming.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
12 That:

13 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Online Gaming.

14 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

15 (1) three members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
16 of the Senate;

17 (2) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
18 the House;

19 (3) the Director of the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency;

20 (4) the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee; and

21 (5) a representative from each existing video lottery operation licensee.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(c) The Director of the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency shall serve as the chair of the Task Force.

(d) The State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Task Force shall:

(1) study the implementation and administration of online gaming in other states, particularly in the neighboring states of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, by consulting with the gaming regulators in those states;

(2) gather online gaming revenue data from other states and study how the revenue is distributed in those states;

(3) for those states that use online gaming revenue to fund education, consult with the education regulators in those states to determine what programs and objectives benefit from the additional funding; and

(4) make recommendations regarding how online gaming could be implemented in the State and how revenue generated from online gaming could be invested in education.

(g) On or before December 31, 2020, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2021, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.