

Chapter 449

(House Bill 1537)

AN ACT concerning

Video Lottery Facilities – Donation of Coins From Gaming Payouts – Expansion

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to adopt regulations that require each video lottery operator to adopt certain procedures to offer certain players the opportunity to donate coins when receiving cash on payout to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund under certain circumstances; and generally relating to gaming payouts and revenues for the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – State Government
Section 9–1A–01(a) and (cc)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – State Government
Section 9–1A–04(d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – State Government

9–1A–01.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(cc) “Video lottery operator” means a person licensed to operate a video lottery facility under this subtitle.

9–1A–04.

(d) The Commission shall adopt regulations that include the following specific provisions in accordance with this subtitle:

(1) establishing the methods and forms of application that an applicant for any license required under this subtitle shall follow and complete before consideration of the application by the Commission;

(2) establishing the methods, procedures, and form for delivery of information from an applicant or licensee concerning any person's family, habits, character, associates, criminal record, business activities, and financial affairs;

(3) establishing the procedures for the fingerprinting of an applicant for any license required under this subtitle or other methods of identification that may be necessary in the judgment of the Commission to accomplish effective enforcement of the provisions of this subtitle;

(4) establishing the manner and procedure of hearings conducted by the Commission;

(5) establishing the manner and method of collection of taxes, fees, and civil penalties;

(6) defining and limiting the areas of operation for video lottery terminals and table games, rules of video lottery terminals and table games, odds for video lottery terminals and table games, the types and values of promotional items that may be given away to encourage play of video lottery terminals and table games, the method of operation of the video lottery terminals and table games, and the number and types of table games;

(7) regulating the practice and procedures for negotiable transactions involving players, including limitations on the circumstances and amounts of negotiable transactions and the establishment of forms and procedures for negotiable instrument transactions, redemptions, and consolidations;

(8) prescribing the grounds and procedures for reprimands of licensees or the revocation or suspension of licenses issued under this subtitle;

(9) governing the manufacture, distribution, sale, and servicing of video lottery terminals and table games;

(10) establishing the procedures, forms, and methods of management controls;

(11) providing for minimum uniform standards of accountancy methods, procedures, and forms as are necessary to assure consistency, comparability, and effective disclosure of all financial information, including percentages of profit for video lottery terminals and table games;

(12) establishing periodic financial reports and the form of the reports, including an annual audit prepared by a certified public accountant licensed to do business in the State, disclosing whether the accounts, records, and control procedures examined are maintained by the video lottery operation licensee as required by this subtitle and the regulations that shall be issued under this subtitle;

(13) requiring licensees under this subtitle to demonstrate and maintain financial viability;

(14) ensuring that the operation of video lottery terminals, table games, and video lottery facilities is conducted legally;

(15) establishing procedures for the removal of video lottery terminals from a video lottery facility;

(16) determining the suitability of:

(i) the use of any variations or composites of the table games authorized under this subtitle after an appropriate test or experimental period under terms and conditions that the Commission may deem appropriate; and

(ii) any other game that is compatible with the public interest and suitable for casino use after an appropriate test or experimental period deemed appropriate by the Commission;

(17) establishing procedures for accounting for all money exchanged at each table game;

(18) establishing the number of video lottery terminals that may be removed from a video lottery facility to accommodate table games;

(19) requiring [one licensee] **EACH VIDEO LOTTERY OPERATOR** under this subtitle to:

(i) establish procedures to offer players the opportunity to donate coins, when receiving cash on payout, to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund established under § 9–913 of this article; and

(ii) attach donation boxes near the exits from [the] **A** video lottery facility, with the proceeds dedicated to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund; and

(20) otherwise carrying out the provisions of this subtitle.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.

Approved by the Governor, May 4, 2017.