

Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency

Larry Hogan, Governor • Gordon Medenica, Director



Montgomery Park Business Center
1800 Washington Blvd., Suite 330
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Tel: 410-230-8800
TTY users call Maryland Relay
www.mdlottery.com

TO: Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Commission
Gordon Medenica, Director

FROM: James Butler, Managing Director
Organizational Compliance

DEPARTMENTS: Government Relations and Human Resources

DATE: April 14, 2021

SUBJECT: Report for the April 2021 Commission Meeting

Following is the status update of ongoing topics in Government Relations and Human Resources for April.

I. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

1. Legislative Update

On April 12, at midnight, the Maryland General Assembly concluded its 2021 legislative session! Below are two bills of interest that passed, from the one hundred (100) bills that I tracked during the session. In addition, the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) requested that the Agency respond to nineteen (19) bills in an effort to determine the fiscal and operational impact on the Agency or Commission, and to assist DLS in preparing its fiscal and policy note on the proposed legislation.

GAMING BILLS OF INTEREST

HB532 - *Gaming - Video Lottery Facilities - Payout Percentages, Distribution of Proceeds, and Building Restrictions. (Allegany County Delegation)*. This enrolled bill alters the minimum payout percentages of video lottery terminals (VLTs) at the casinos; requires the Comptroller to pay a certain amount from the State Lottery Fund as local impact grants to Anne Arundel County or Baltimore City under the hold harmless provision; alters the distribution of proceeds from VLTs at Allegany County, Baltimore City, and Cecil County at specific dates in the future; repeals a limitation on the casino in Worcester County from building a hotel, and alters the scope of the Commission's December 2022 report to the Governor and General Assembly. If signed by the Governor, the bill would go into effect on July 1, 2021.

HB940 - *Gaming - Regulation of Fantasy Gaming Competitions and Implementation of Sports Wagering - Supplementary Appropriation (The Speaker)*. This enrolled bill authorizes sports wagering license holders to accept wagers on sporting events by certain methods and in certain locations; requires certain fantasy competition operators to register with the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission before the operator may offer fantasy competition or services; authorizes the Commission to impose a fee for the registration of a sports wagering licensee and operator; and establishes the Sports Wagering Application Review Commission to review applications for licenses and evaluate certain race-neutral programs. This is an emergency bill and, if signed by the Governor, the bill would go into effect upon signing.

II. HUMAN RESOURCE MATTERS

The Human Resources (HR) Department continues to notify Agency employees and third-parties of individuals testing positive for COVID-19. In addition, HR continues to monitor and educate Agency managers and supervisors on COVID-19 related medical absences and teleworking procedures to ensure that our employees stay safe and protected.

HR has submitted six (6) hiring freeze exception requests to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for approval. DBM has approved all six (6) of our exception requests. HR continues the recruitment process for these approved positions as well as identifying and processing new hiring freeze exception requests.