

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

Tel: 410-230-8800
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www.mdlottery.com

STAFF AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: July 15, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Delegation to Staff
Authority to approve equipment, systems, and software of video lottery, instant bingo, and sports wagering operators

PRESENTER: Michael Eaton, Managing Director, Gaming

ISSUE SUMMARY: The Commission's regulations require the Commission to make determinations about whether equipment, systems and software meet specific regulatory requirements for use by video lottery facility, instant bingo facility, and sports wagering licensees, and to approve those items in writing. To date, Staff has provided the Commission with documents that detail the specific equipment, systems, and software that require approval, and included the approval of each item in the Consent Agenda portion of Commission meetings.

Agency Staff are subject matter experts on the various technical and operational requirements, and are qualified to make the numerous required determinations about whether equipment, systems and software satisfy applicable regulatory requirements. As such, Staff can do so expeditiously and efficiently. Staff is requesting that the Commission delegate to it the authority to make the required determinations, and to issue the required written approvals. These delegations would help licensees by reducing the approval time for implementing and modifying their equipment, systems or software.

Specifically, Staff is requesting that the Commission delegate to it the approval authority in:

COMAR 36.04.01.02 - Testing, Certification, and Approval of Equipment, a System, or Software

This regulation requires written Commission approval of specific equipment, systems, or software that a manufacturer offers for sale, lease, distribution, or use in a video lottery facility, and that a facility operator purchases, leases, or otherwise acquires the right to install, utilize, or make available for use in its facility.

COMAR 36.07.06. Testing, Certification, and Approval of Equipment, a System, or Software

This regulation requires written Commission approval of specific equipment, systems, or software that a manufacturer offers for sale, lease, distribution, or use in an instant bingo facility, and that an instant bingo facility operator purchases, leases, or otherwise acquires the right to install, utilize, or make available for use in its facility.

COMAR 36.10.17. Sports Wagering Equipment and

COMAR 36.10.18. Sports Wagering Technical Requirements.

The regulations in these chapters require written Commission approval of a sports wagering licensee's sports wagering equipment, which is any mechanical, electronic or other device, mechanism, software or equipment, and related supplies used or consumed in the operation of sports wagering, including a self-serving kiosk on the premises of a sports wagering facility, and a sports wagering platform.

COMMISSION ACTION REQUIRED/REQUESTED: Staff requests that the Commission approve a Motion to delegate to Staff its approval authority under the foregoing specified regulations, and that Staff shall report to the Commission an exercise of the delegated authority, and that the Commission may revoke this Delegation at any time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff recommends the Commission approve the Motion.