

Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency

Wes Moore, Governor • John Martin, Director



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TO: Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Commission
John Martin, Director

FROM: James Butler, Assistant Deputy Director, Chief of Staff

UNITS: Government Relations, Regulations and Human Resources

DATE: January 20, 2026

SUBJECT: Director Report for the January 2026 Commission Meeting

Following is the status update of ongoing efforts in Government Relations, Regulations, and Human Resources for January.

I. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MATTERS

A. The Maryland General Assembly convened on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, for the 2026 Legislative Session. MLGCA generates funds for the General Fund, Education Trust Fund, and the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund through Lottery, Video Lottery Terminals (Casinos), and Sports Wagering. The Agency's departmental bills will be heard in the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee.

MLGCA has submitted three Departmental Bills (attached):

- Senate Bill 112 (House Bill 295) - Gaming - Prohibition on Illegal Gaming
- Senate Bill 102 (House Bill 291) - Promotional Play - Sports Wagering
- Senate Bill 176 (House Bill 289) - Central Collections Unit Powers - Prize Interception through Video Lottery Operators

These bills will be introduced in the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee by Chair Guy Guzzone and in the House Ways and Means Committee by Chair Jheanelle Wilkins.

B. The Agency will brief the members of the House Ways and Means Committee on Wednesday, January 21, at 11:00 a.m. This is an early session briefing before this committee.

C. Budget Briefings: The Agency will have its budget briefings before the following subcommittees:

- Friday, February 13 at 11:30 a.m. before the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee's Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee.
- Thursday, February 19 at 1:00 p.m. before the House Appropriations Committee's Education and Economic Development Subcommittee

II. REGULATORY MATTERS

The Notice of Proposed Action was published in the December 26, 2025 version of the *Maryland Register* (Volume 52, Issue 26) for the following amendments which were approved at the August 28, 2025 and October 23, 2025 Commission meetings:

August 28, 2025:

- (1) Regulations .11, .12 and .43 under **COMAR 36.03.10 Video Lottery Facility Minimum Internal Control Standards**;
- (2) Regulation .04 under **COMAR 36.03.11 Facility Standards**;

- (3) Regulations .04 and .05 under **COMAR 36.05.03 Table Games Procedures**;
- (4) Regulation .01 under **COMAR 36.08.04 General Standards**;
- (5) Regulation .03 under **COMAR 36.10.04 Specific Requirements for Sports Wagering Facilities**;
- (6) Regulation .03 under **COMAR 36.10.10 Enforcement of Voluntary Exclusion Program**;
- (7) Regulation .34 under **COMAR 36.10.13 Sports Wagering Licensee Minimum Internal Control Standards**;
- (8) Regulation .06 under **COMAR 36.10.14 Sports Wagering Requirements and Limitations**; and
- (9) Regulations .04 and .06 under **COMAR 36.10.18 Sports Wagering Technical Standards**.

October 23, 2025:

- (1) Regulations .01 and .03 under **COMAR 36.03.06 Enforcement of Voluntary Exclusion Program**;
- (2) Regulation .38 under **COMAR 36.03.10 Video Lottery Facility Minimum Internal Control Standards**;
- (3) Regulation .14 under **COMAR 36.07.04 Instant Bingo Minimum Internal Control Standards**
- (4) Regulation .08 under **COMAR 36.07.06 Technical Standards**;
- (5) Regulation .01 under **COMAR 36.10.10 Enforcement of Voluntary Exclusion Program**; and
- (6) Regulations .29 and .41 under **COMAR 36.10.13 Sports Wagering Licensee Minimum Internal Control Standards**.

III. HUMAN RESOURCES MATTERS

The Agency is still recruiting for various vacant positions across units and continues to submit Individual Hiring Freeze Exception Requests (HFERs) to the Department of Budget and Management so that we will be able to recruit for other positions in which the Agency received retirement and resignation notices.