

# 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: February 25, 2026

SUBJECT: Director Report for the February 2026 Commission Meeting

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

## **I. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MATTERS**

- A. On February 26, the Maryland General Assembly will be in its 44<sup>th</sup> day, marking the half-way point of the 2026 Legislative Session. The Agency is currently tracking 35 bills this session, and the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) has requested that the Agency respond to 35 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. A complete list of bills of interest concerning lottery, gaming, sports wagering, and other matters are included with the legislative.
- B. The Agency will brief the members of the House Ways and Means Committee on Friday, February 27, at 12:00 p.m., on the Agency's efforts with respect to responsible gaming, particularly with regard to the State Lottery.
- C. The Agency completed its budget briefings before the following subcommittees - Senate Budget and Taxation Committee's Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee and the House Appropriations Committee's Education and Economic Development Subcommittee. The briefings went well, and we now await the subcommittee's recommendation to the full committee.

## **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 amendments which were approved at the August 28, 2025 and October 23, 2025 Commission meetings. The 30-day public comment period ran from December 26, 2025 to January 26, 2026, and the Agency received several comments to specific proposed amendments. The comments are posted on the bottom of the Statutes & Regulations webpage at <https://www.mdgaming.com/marylands-casinos/official-regulations/>. The Agency will submit its recommendations to the Commission on comments received before moving for final action on the proposed amendments.

## **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. As of November 2025, the Agency's vacancy rate stands at 7.58%, which is consistent with the statewide rate.