

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: March 24, 2026

SUBJECT: Director Report for the March 2026 Commission Meeting

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

I. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MATTERS

- A. March 23 marked the 69th day of the 2026 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly, also known as crossover day, which means that each chamber will send to the opposite chamber those bills it intends to pass favorably out of its chamber. Although we have been tracking 70 bills during the session, the Agency is paying close attention to 19 bills that passed since crossover. A complete list of bills of interest concerning lottery, gaming, sports wagering, and other matters are included with the legislative report.
- B. The Senate passed SB282, *the Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2027)*, concurring in the Governor's allowance on our budget. The Senate also passed SB284, *the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BFRA) of 2026*, which reduces two required distributions from the State Lottery Fund to other specified funds. The House concurred with the Senate's action on our budget allowance, and both the Budget Bill and BRFA are now on second reader before the full House.

II. REGULATORY MATTERS

The Agency will present to the Commission its recommendations on comments received concerning proposed amendments which were published in the December 26, 2025 version of the *Maryland Register* (Volume 52, Issue 26). If the Commission approves the Agency's recommendations, the Agency will submit the proposed amendments for publication as a Final Action.

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.