

HOUSE BILL 49

C7
HB 157/15 – W&M

(PRE-FILED)

6lr0341

By: **Delegate Holmes**

Requested: May 26, 2015

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Gaming – Home Games**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing a person to conduct a home game that is a game of chance or
4 skill involving wagering that is conducted in a person's home or a residential
5 property that is restricted to housing for certain persons and allows a player to
6 compete directly against one or more other players; prohibiting a person from
7 conducting a home game involving a player's use of an electronic device that connects
8 to the Internet; prohibiting a person from benefiting financially in any way, directly
9 or indirectly, other than from the winnings accrued by participating as a player in a
10 home game; and generally relating to gaming.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Criminal Law

13 Section 12–115

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Criminal Law**

19 **12–115.**

20 **NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE, A PERSON MAY**
21 **CONDUCT A HOME GAME THAT IS A GAME OF CHANCE OR SKILL INVOLVING**
22 **WAGERING THAT:**

23 **(1) IS CONDUCTED IN:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(I) THE PERSON'S HOME; OR**

2 **(II) A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY THAT IS RESTRICTED TO**
3 **HOUSING FOR PERSONS WHO ARE AT LEAST 55 YEARS OLD;**

4 **(2) ALLOWS A PLAYER TO COMPETE DIRECTLY AGAINST ONE OR MORE**
5 **OTHER PLAYERS;**

6 **(3) DOES NOT INVOLVE A PLAYER'S USE OF AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE**
7 **THAT CONNECTS TO THE INTERNET; AND**

8 **(4) DOES NOT ALLOW A PERSON TO BENEFIT FINANCIALLY IN ANY**
9 **WAY, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OTHER THAN FROM THE WINNINGS ACCRUED BY**
10 **PARTICIPATING AS A PLAYER IN THE GAME.**

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2016.