

# HOUSE BILL 1014

C7

8lr3489

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By: **Delegates Turner, Kaiser, Ebersole, Luedtke, ~~and Walker~~ Walker, Buckel, Hornberger, and Rose**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2018

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 10, 2018

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Expansion of Commercial Gaming – Referendum – Sports Wagering**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that the General Assembly may authorize, by law, the State  
4 Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to issue certain sports wagering licenses;  
5 providing that a license may be issued only to certain entities; declaring the intent  
6 of the General Assembly that certain revenues be used for dedicated purposes;  
7 making this Act subject to a certain contingency; submitting, subject to a certain  
8 contingency, this Act to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State; requiring  
9 the State Board of Elections to do certain things necessary to provide for and hold  
10 the referendum; and generally relating to sports wagering in the State.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

12 That:

13 (a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the General Assembly may authorize,  
14 by law, the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to issue a license to offer sports  
15 wagering in the State.

16 (b) The license authorized under subsection (a) of this section may be issued only  
17 to the holder of:

18 (1) a video lottery operation license; or

19 (2) a license for mile thoroughbred racing or harness racing.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1        SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General  
2 Assembly that, if the voters of this State adopt a constitutional amendment that authorizes  
3 sports wagering in the State, the State revenues generated by sports wagering be used for  
4 dedicated purposes including the funding of public education.

5        ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of Section 1 of~~  
6 ~~this Act, that authorize certain licensees to offer sports wagering in the State, are subject~~  
7 ~~to a referendum of the qualified voters of Maryland as provided in Section 3 of this Act, and~~  
8 ~~upon voter approval of this Act at the general election to be held in November 2018,~~  
9 ~~legislation shall be required to provide for the operation, regulation, and disposition of~~  
10 ~~proceeds of sports wagering in the State.~~

11        SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That before Section 1 of this Act,  
12 which authorizes additional forms or expansion of commercial gaming, becomes effective,  
13 it first shall be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State ~~at the general~~  
14 ~~election to be held in November 2018~~ at the next November general election following the  
15 date the contingency in Section 4 of this Act is satisfied, in accordance with Article XIX, §  
16 1(e) of the Maryland Constitution. The State Board of Elections shall do those things  
17 necessary and proper to provide for and hold the referendum required by this section. If a  
18 majority of the votes cast on the question are “For the referred law”, this Act shall become  
19 effective on the 30th day following the official canvass of votes for the referendum, but if a  
20 majority of the votes cast on the question are “Against the referred law”, this Act, with no  
21 further action required by the General Assembly, shall be null and void.

22        SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of  
23 Section 3 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum required by  
24 Section 3 of this Act, Section 3 of this Act shall take effect contingent upon the repeal or  
25 amendment of the federal Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act in a manner  
26 that does not prohibit the State from allowing wagering on sporting events or a  
27 determination by a federal court or the United States Department of Justice that the Act  
28 does not prohibit the State from allowing wagering on sporting events. If the Director of  
29 the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency determines that an event satisfying the  
30 contingency has occurred, the Director shall notify the Department of Legislative Services.  
31 Section 3 of this Act shall take effect on the date that notice from the Director is received  
32 by the Department of Legislative Services.

33        ~~SECTION 4. 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions~~  
34 ~~of Section 3 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum required by~~  
35 ~~Section 3 of this Act,~~ subject to the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of this Act, this Act shall  
36 take effect July 1, 2018.