

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

House Bill 954  
Ways and Means

(Delegate Patterson, *et al.*)

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Gaming - Electronic Instant Bingo Machines - Paper Tickets Option

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This bill authorizes electronic instant bingo machines allowed under current law to provide a player the option to print a paper ticket for each game played. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill pertains exclusively to private-sector activities.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** An entity licensed to offer instant bingo under a commercial bingo license on July 1, 2007, or a qualified nonprofit organization, may continue to operate a game of instant bingo in the same manner using electronic machines, provided that:

- the machines were in operation for a one-year period ending December 31, 2007, or under a commercial bingo license on December 31, 2007;
- the entity does not operate more than the number of machines in operation on February 28, 2008; and
- the conduct of the gaming and operation of the machines are consistent with all other provisions of the Criminal Law Article.

A county may not issue a commercial bingo license under Title 13 of the Criminal Law Article or under any public local law to an entity that was not licensed to conduct commercial bingo on or before June 30, 2008.

A State admissions and amusement tax is imposed on the net proceeds derived from any charge for the operation of an electronic bingo machine permitted under a commercial bingo license or an electronic tip jar machine authorized under Title 13 of the Criminal Law Article that is operated for commercial purposes. The combined State and local tax rate may not exceed 35%. The tax is currently only imposed in Anne Arundel and Calvert counties.

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### **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** SB 1112 (Senator Zucker) - Rules.

**Information Source(s):** Comptroller's Office; Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 16, 2024  
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