

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1577

(Delegate Malone)

Ways and Means

Judicial Proceedings

Baltimore County - Card Games and Prizes - Repeal of Prohibition

This bill allows qualified organizations in Baltimore County to award prizes of money or merchandise in a gaming event that uses card games. A qualified organization may conduct a maximum of one card game in a month.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in revenue in Baltimore County due to additional permit fees.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Qualified organizations can conduct gaming events or casino events in Baltimore County if they meet specific requirements and receive a permit from the Department of Permits and Development Management. Qualified organizations include volunteer fire companies and religious, fraternal, civic, veterans', veterans' hospital, and amateur athletic and charitable organizations. Qualified organizations must spend the majority of the net proceeds from a casino night or gaming event in the county for the benefit of volunteer fire operations, veterans, veterans' hospitals, or for religious, fraternal, civic, amateur athletics, or charitable purposes. Organizations are required to ensure that individuals do not receive any proceeds of, or personally benefit from, the

gaming event or casino event and that the gaming event or casino event is personally managed by the members of the permit holder.

An organization that receives a permit may award a prize of money or merchandise using: (1) a paddle wheel; (2) a wheel of fortune; (3) a chance book; (4) bingo; or (5) a gaming device. Qualified organizations cannot award prizes of money or merchandise using card games.

Dice games and roulette can only be conducted during a casino event by the qualified organizations listed above except amateur athletic organizations. An organization may conduct only one casino event that includes a card game or roulette during the year and must follow specified reporting requirements and limits on wagering and prizes.

Local Fiscal Effect: The Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management advises that the permit fees are \$30 a day for a gaming event and \$100 a day for a casino event. To the extent that qualified organizations conduct additional gaming events, permit fee revenue would increase in Baltimore County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 16, 2005
mp/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - April 9, 2005

Analysis by: Robert J. Rehrmann

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510