

CHAPTER 374

(House Bill 146)

AN ACT concerning

Harford County – Gaming

FOR the purpose of requiring the Sheriff of Harford County to charge a certain fee for a 50/50 license; increasing the maximum money prizes that may be awarded for certain games; authorizing certain organizations to conduct a game of 50/50 at a certain event if the organization acquires a license; and generally relating to gaming in Harford County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Criminal Law

Section 13–1501(a), (c), and (f), 13–1502(a), and 13–1503(b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Criminal Law

Section 13–1503(d), 13–1504(b), 13–1505(c), and 13–1508

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

Article – Criminal Law

13–1501.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(c) “50/50” means a drawing from a finite number of chances in which the proceeds from the sale of chances are split evenly between the winner and the organization conducting the game.

(f) “Sheriff” means the Sheriff of Harford County.

13–1502.

(a) This subtitle applies only in Harford County.

13-1503.

(b) The following organizations may obtain a license to conduct a gaming event:

(1) a bona fide religious group that has conducted religious services at a fixed location in the county for at least 3 years before applying for a license;

(2) a State-chartered organization authorized by a nationally chartered veterans organization;

(3) a tax-supported volunteer fire company; or

(4) a nonprofit organization that intends to raise money for an exclusively charitable, athletic, or educational purpose which is specifically described in the application for a license.

(d) The sheriff shall charge the following license fees:

(1) \$5 for a bingo license;

(2) \$10 for a paddle wheel license;

(3) \$10 for a raffle license; [and]

(4) \$10 FOR A 50/50 LICENSE; AND

[(4)] (5) \$15 for a members-only instant bingo license.

13-1504.

(b) A money prize for a bingo game may not exceed:

(1) **[\$50] \$500;** or

(2) \$1,000 for a jackpot.

13-1505.

(c) A money prize for a members-only instant bingo game may not exceed **[\$50] \$500.**

13-1508.

(a) An organization listed in § 13–1503(b) of this subtitle may conduct a game of 50/50 [without a license.

(b) A game of 50/50 may only be conducted]:

(1) **WITHOUT A 50/50 LICENSE**, at a meeting of the organization; **OR**

(2) **WITH A 50/50 LICENSE, AT AN EVENT OTHER THAN A MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION.**

[(c)] (B) A money prize for a game of 50/50 may not exceed [\$50] **\$500**.

[(d)] (C) A minor may not participate in a game of 50/50.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor, May 7, 2009.