

Chapter 346

(House Bill 7)

AN ACT concerning

Criminal Law – Betting, Wagering, and Gambling – Fantasy Competition

FOR the purpose of exempting certain fantasy competitions from gaming prohibitions; defining a certain term; authorizing the Comptroller to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to fantasy competitions.

BY adding to

Article – Criminal Law

Section 12-114

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

Article – Criminal Law

12-114.

(A) ~~FOR THE PURPOSES OF~~ IN THIS SECTION, “FANTASY COMPETITION” INCLUDES ANY ONLINE FANTASY OR SIMULATED GAME OR CONTEST SUCH AS FANTASY SPORTS, ~~ONLINE OR OTHERWISE~~, IN WHICH:

(1) PARTICIPANTS OWN, MANAGE, OR COACH IMAGINARY TEAMS;

(2) ALL PRIZES AND AWARDS OFFERED TO WINNING PARTICIPANTS ARE ESTABLISHED AND MADE KNOWN TO PARTICIPANTS IN ADVANCE OF THE GAME OR CONTEST;

(3) THE WINNING OUTCOME OF THE GAME OR CONTEST REFLECTS THE RELATIVE SKILL OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND IS DETERMINED BY STATISTICS GENERATED BY ACTUAL INDIVIDUALS (PLAYERS OR TEAMS IN THE CASE OF A PROFESSIONAL SPORT); AND

(4) NO WINNING OUTCOME IS BASED:

(I) SOLELY ON THE PERFORMANCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL ATHLETE; OR

(II) ON THE SCORE, POINT SPREAD, OR ANY PERFORMANCES OF ANY SINGLE REAL-WORLD TEAM OR ANY COMBINATION OF REAL-WORLD TEAMS.

(B) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS OR ANY OTHER TITLE, THE PROHIBITIONS AGAINST BETTING, WAGERING, AND GAMBLING DO NOT APPLY TO PARTICIPATION IN A FANTASY COMPETITION.

(C) THE COMPTROLLER MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2012.

Approved by the Governor, May 2, 2012.