

HOUSE BILL 1459

C7

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By: **Harford County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Harford County – Gaming Events – License

FOR the purpose of adding a certain nonstock corporation operating a chamber of commerce in Harford County to the list of organizations that may obtain a license to conduct a gaming event in Harford County; and generally relating to gaming events in Harford County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Criminal Law
Section 13–1502(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Criminal Law
Section 13–1503
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

Article – Criminal Law

13–1502.

(a) This subtitle applies only in Harford County.

13–1503.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(a) Before an organization conducts a gaming event under this subtitle, the organization shall obtain a license from the sheriff.

(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; **OR**

(5) A BONA FIDE NONSTOCK CORPORATION THAT:

(I) OPERATES A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE COUNTY;

AND

(II) INTENDS TO RAISE MONEY EXCLUSIVELY TO SUPPORT THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

(c) An application for a license shall contain a certification by a principal officer of the organization that states:

(1) the scheduled time and place of the gaming event and the date of any raffle drawing;

(2) that the licensed activities will be managed and conducted solely and personally by the regular members of the organization without the assistance of gaming professionals;

(3) that all money prizes offered will comply with the limits listed in this subtitle;

(4) that the organization, by one of its principal officers, shall, within 15 days after the last day named in the application for conducting the licensed activities, file a report under penalties of perjury containing the information required by § 13-1509 of this subtitle; and

(5) if the organization is a nonprofit organization that intends to raise money for an exclusively charitable, athletic, or educational purpose, a specific description of the purpose.

(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;
- (4) \$10 for a 50/50 license; and
- (5) \$15 for a members-only instant bingo license.

(e) An activity for which a license is issued under this subtitle must be conducted and managed solely and personally by regular members of the organization:

- (1) who do not regularly conduct gaming activities for any other organization; and
- (2) without the assistance of gaming professionals.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.