

HOUSE BILL 127

C7
HB 59/15 – W&M

6lr1327
CF 6lr1819

By: **Delegates Reznik, Buckel, Ebersole, Frush, Glass, Glenn, Grammer, Holmes, Hornberger, C. Howard, Kipke, Lam, Luedtke, Pendergrass, Valderrama, West, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Gaming – Home Games**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing an individual who is at least a certain age to conduct a home
4 game involving wagering if the home game is conducted in certain manner; and
5 generally relating to gaming.

6 BY adding to

7 Article – Criminal Law

8 Section 12–115

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Criminal Law**

14 **12–115.**

15 **NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE, AN INDIVIDUAL**
16 **WHO IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD MAY CONDUCT A HOME GAME INVOLVING WAGERING**
17 **IF THE HOME GAME:**

18 **(1) IS LIMITED TO MAH JONG OR A CARD GAME;**

19 **(2) IS CONDUCTED NOT MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(I) IN THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MAY**
2 **ALSO PARTICIPATE AS A PLAYER IN THE HOME GAME; OR**

3 **(II) IN A COMMON AREA OF A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY THAT IS**
4 **RESTRICTED TO RESIDENTS WHO ARE AT LEAST 55 YEARS OLD;**

5 **(3) ALLOWS A PLAYER TO COMPETE DIRECTLY AGAINST ONE OR MORE**
6 **OTHER PLAYERS WHO SHARE A PREEXISTING SOCIAL RELATIONSHIP;**

7 **(4) DOES NOT ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL TO BENEFIT FINANCIALLY IN**
8 **ANY WAY, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OTHER THAN FROM THE WINNINGS ACCRUED**
9 **BY PARTICIPATING AS A PLAYER IN THE GAME;**

10 **(5) DOES NOT INVOLVE:**

11 **(I) A PLAYER'S USE OF AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE THAT**
12 **CONNECTS TO THE INTERNET;**

13 **(II) THE USE OF PAID PUBLIC ADVERTISING OR PROMOTIONS;**

14 **(III) THE CHARGING OF A FEE FOR ADMISSION, A SEAT,**
15 **ENTERTAINMENT, OR FOOD AND DRINK OR ANY OTHER FEE; OR**

16 **(IV) THE USE OF ANY MONEY EXCEPT MONEY USED FOR**
17 **WAGERING; AND**

18 **(6) HAS A LIMIT OF \$2,000 ON THE AMOUNT OF MONEY OR TOKENS**
19 **REPRESENTING MONEY THAT MAY BE WAGERED.**

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2016.