

CORY V. McCRAY
Legislative District 45
Baltimore City

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Health and Human Services

Vice Chair, Capital Budget

Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee

Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Vote YES on Senate Bill 341

Bill Title: Baltimore City – Raffles – Organizations Affiliated with a Professional MLB Team

Committee: Ways and Means Committee

Hearing Date: March 20th, 2025

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Esteemed Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing today in support of **Senate Bill 341**, which would modernize charitable raffles at Baltimore Orioles games by allowing organizations to conduct raffles using modern technology - specifically phones and computers - instead of traditional paper tickets. The goal is to make it easier for fans to participate while ensuring all proceeds benefit our Baltimore community.

The legislation includes careful rules about when and where these raffles can operate. Ticket sales would only be allowed when someone is physically present in Baltimore City, starting one hour before each game and ending at the 7th inning. Special technology would verify a participant's location to ensure compliance.

Organizations running these raffles must meet specific requirements. They must be based in Baltimore City and direct most of their funds toward community benefits such as charitable work, community service, veterans hospitals, youth sports, or local organization activities. A designated city agency would oversee the process, ensuring only qualified organizations receive permits. The bill provides clear operational guidelines. While organizations could set their own ticket prices and prize amounts, they cannot keep proceeds for personal use. Only official members of the permitted organization could operate the raffle, and one permit could cover multiple games throughout the year.

Most importantly, this legislation maintains strong oversight while bringing Baltimore's charitable gaming into the modern era. It allows baseball fans to support community causes more easily while ensuring proper controls and transparency in the process.

In closing, I respectfully urge the committee to support **Senate Bill 341**. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation that would benefit both charitable organizations and the broader Baltimore community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cory V. McCray', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cory V. McCray
45th District