

**Maryland General Assembly  
Department of Legislative Services**

**Emergency/Proposed Regulation  
Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency  
(DLS Control No. 15-048)**

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**Overview and Legal and Fiscal Impact**

This emergency/proposed regulation amends table game payout odds for the operation of Three Card Poker.

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

**Regulation of COMAR Affected**

**Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency:**

Table Games: Three Card Poker Rules: COMAR 36.05.14.12

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**Legal Analysis**

**Background**

Maryland casinos offer a variety of table games, and the operation of each game is subject to regulation.

**Summary of Regulation**

The emergency/proposed regulation provides that, if a facility operator offers a version of Three Card Poker as described in the regulations, a player placing an Ante Wager and Play Wager is to be paid an Ante Bonus at odds specified in the regulation rather than odds provided from a payable selected in the operator's rules submission.

In addition, the emergency/proposed regulation provides new paytables for a Six Card Bonus Wager. If offered by the facility operator, the operator must pay out Six Card Bonus Wagers at the amounts provided from one of the paytables selected by the operator in its rules submission.

**Legal Issue**

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

## **Statutory Authority and Legislative Intent**

The Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency cites §§ 9-1A-02(b) and 9-1A-04(d) of the State Government Article as authority for the regulation. Section 9-1A-02(b) requires the agency to provide assistance to the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission in the performance of the commission's duties, and § 9-1A-04(d) requires the commission to adopt regulations, including rules for table game operations.

This authority is correct and complete. The regulation complies with the legislative intent of the law.

## **Reason for Emergency Status**

The agency requests emergency status to begin May 1, 2015 and expire July 29, 2015. This emergency period is within the normal timeframes approved by the committee. The agency states this regulation must be in place to allow casinos to offer this type of table game or change the rules of the operation of this game.

## **Fiscal Analysis**

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

## **Agency Estimate of Projected Fiscal Impact**

The regulation alters certain payout rules for the table game of Three Card Poker. The agency advises that the regulation has no impact on State or local governments. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

## **Impact on Budget**

There is no impact on the State operating or capital budget.

## **Agency Estimate of Projected Small Business Impact**

The agency advises that the regulation has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses in the State. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

## **Contact Information**

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