

**Maryland General Assembly
Department of Legislative Services**

**Emergency/Proposed Regulation
Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency
(DLS Control No. 15-065)**

Overview and Legal and Fiscal Impact

This emergency regulation alters the requirements associated with placing bets in a game of poker at a gaming facility.

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: Poker Rules: COMAR 36.05.06.08

Legal Analysis

Summary of Regulation

This emergency regulation alters the requirements associated with placing bets in a game of poker at a gaming facility. Specifically, if a player intends to temporarily leave a poker table during a round of play, a floor person shall verify and maintain the player's table stakes before and after the player's departure only if requested by the player. Additionally, the regulation clarifies the requirements when a player seeks to "raise" so that the player must state the amount the player is raising or put all of the player's chips in the pot at once.

Legal Issue

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

Statutory Authority and Legislative Intent

The department cites §§ 9-1A-02(b) and 9-1A-04(d) of the State Government Article. Section 9-1A-02(b) requires the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission and the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency to regulate the operation of table games. Section 9-1A-04(d)(6) authorizes the commission to define and limit the rules, odds, and methods of operation of table games.

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

Reason for Emergency Status

The department requests emergency status in order to alter table game procedures for placing bets during poker games.

Fiscal Analysis

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

Agency Estimate of Projected Fiscal Impact

The regulation alters procedural rules relating to 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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