

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1304
Ways and Means

(Delegate Malone, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Baltimore County - Gaming - Casino Events

This bill enables a qualified organization in Baltimore County to conduct a casino event that includes a card game once each calendar month. A person that holds a casino event may not allow a player to bet more than \$10 in any one game within the calendar month. The Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management must adopt regulations that require a separate permit to be issued for each casino event to be conducted.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: To the extent organizations hold more card games each year, Baltimore County permit fee revenues could increase.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A qualified organization may conduct one casino event that includes a card game or roulette, per calendar year. A qualified organization includes a volunteer fire company, or a bona fide religious, fraternal, civic, charitable, or war veterans' organization. A person that holds a casino event may not allow a player to bet more than \$10 in any one game.

The Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management must adopt regulations to govern: the issuing of casino event permits; and the conduct and management of casino events in a manner designed to prevent fraud and protect the public.

Local Fiscal Effect: The bill allows qualified organizations to hold a casino event that includes a card game as often as once per month, rather than once per year as permitted by current law. The casino event permit fees are currently \$100 per event. Baltimore County did not respond to repeated requests for information regarding the bill's fiscal impact. The extent of any increase cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 13, 2006
ncs/hlb

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