

CHAPTER 281

(House Bill 1391)

AN ACT concerning

Harford County – Gaming – Political Fundraising

FOR the purpose of authorizing a political committee in Harford County to conduct a fundraiser at which prizes of money or merchandise are awarded in certain games of chance; requiring that a prize not exceed the amount otherwise allowed for a prize in the county; and generally relating to gaming and political fundraising in Harford County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Criminal Law
Section 13–1501(a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) and 13–1502
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2002 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Criminal Law
Section 13–1508.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2002 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

Article – Criminal Law

13–1501.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) “Bingo”:
 - (1) includes instant bingo; but
 - (2) does not include members–only instant bingo.

(c) “50/50” means a drawing from a finite number of chances in which the proceeds from the sale of chances are split evenly between the winner and the organization conducting the game.

(d) “Gaming event” means bingo, members-only instant bingo, a raffle, or a paddle wheel.

(e) “Members-only instant bingo” means an instant bingo game that is limited to members and guests of an organization listed in § 13-1503(b) of this subtitle.

13-1502.

(a) This subtitle applies only in Harford County.

(b) This subtitle does not authorize the use of a slot machine or any type of coin machine for gambling purposes.

13-1508.1.

(A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE, A POLITICAL COMMITTEE, AS DEFINED IN § 1-101 OF THE ELECTION LAW ARTICLE, MAY CONDUCT A FUNDRAISER AT WHICH PRIZES OF MONEY OR MERCHANDISE ARE AWARDED IN A GAMING EVENT OR 50/50.

(B) A POLITICAL COMMITTEE MAY AWARD A MONEY OR MERCHANDISE PRIZE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE PRIZE DOES NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OTHERWISE ALLOWED FOR A PRIZE IN THE COUNTY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2007.