

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 423 (Senator Madaleno)  
Budget and Taxation

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**Video Lottery Terminals - Ballot Issue Committee - Expansion of Required Information**

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This bill makes specified requirements currently applicable to a corporation that cumulatively spends more than \$10,000 on campaign material to promote the success or defeat of the constitutional amendment to authorize video lottery terminal gaming instead applicable to *any expenditures* over \$10,000 to promote the success or defeat of the constitutional amendment made by *any business entity*, including a corporation, general or limited partnership, limited liability company, and a real estate investment trust. The bill also affirms that a ballot issue committee formed to promote the success or defeat of the constitutional amendment must file a campaign finance report on or before the second Friday immediately preceding the 2008 general election.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2008.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill's changes could be handled within existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** The constitutional amendment proposed by Chapter 5 of the 2007 special session would authorize the issuance of a limited number of video lottery operation licenses in the State, subject to specified requirements and conditions,

and would require any authorizations by the General Assembly of additional forms or expansion of commercial gaming to be submitted to a referendum. Chapter 5 will be submitted for Maryland voters' approval or rejection at the 2008 general election.

Chapter 4 of the 2007 special session requires a corporation that cumulatively spends more than \$10,000 on campaign material to promote the success or defeat of the constitutional amendment proposed by Chapter 5 to file campaign finance reports on the same dates on which a ballot issue committee is required to file campaign finance reports under State campaign finance law. In addition, a corporation must include on all campaign material published or distributed by the corporation to promote the success or defeat of the constitutional amendment specified information identifying those responsible for the material.

Chapter 4 also requires a ballot issue committee formed to promote the success or defeat of the constitutional amendment proposed by Chapter 5 to file, in addition to the campaign finance reports otherwise required under State campaign finance law, a campaign finance report on or before the fourth Friday immediately preceding the 2008 general election.

State campaign finance law requires a ballot issue committee to file campaign finance reports on or before the second Friday immediately preceding a general election and on or before the third Tuesday after a general election.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 10, 2008  
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