

HOUSE BILL 193

C7

9lr1555

By: **Delegates Love and Kullen**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2009

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Gaming - Instant Bingo - Extension of Sunset**

3 FOR the purpose of extending the termination date for the authority for the operation
4 of certain instant bingo games using electronic machines; repealing a certain
5 obsolete requirement; and generally relating to instant bingo operations.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article - Criminal Law
8 Section 12-301
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Chapter 474 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2008
13 Section 2

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

16 **Article - Criminal Law**

17 12-301.

18 In this subtitle:

19 (1) "slot machine" means a machine, apparatus, or device that:

20 (i) operates or can be made to operate by inserting, depositing,
21 or placing with another person money, a token, or another object; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) through the element of chance, the reading of a game of
2 chance, the delivery of a game of chance, or any other outcome unpredictable by the
3 user, awards the user:

4 1. money, a token, or other object that represents or that
5 can be converted into money; or

6 2. the right to receive money, a token, or another object
7 that represents and can be converted into money;

8 (2) "slot machine" includes:

9 (i) a machine, apparatus, or device described in item (1) of this
10 section that also sells, delivers, or awards merchandise, money, or some other tangible
11 thing of value; and

12 (ii) a pinball machine or console machine that pays off in
13 merchandise; and

14 (3) "slot machine" does not include a machine, apparatus, or device
15 that:

16 (i) awards the user only free additional games or plays;

17 (ii) awards the user only noncash merchandise or noncash
18 prizes of minimal value;

19 (iii) dispenses paper pull tab tip jar tickets or paper pull tab
20 instant bingo tickets that must be opened manually by the user provided that the
21 machine, apparatus, or device does not:

22 1. read the tickets electronically;

23 2. alert the user to a winning or losing ticket; or

24 3. tabulate a player's winnings and losses;

25 (iv) 1. displays facsimiles of bingo cards that users mark and
26 monitor according to numbers called on the premises by an individual where the user
27 is operating the machine; and

28 2. does not permit a user to play more than 54 bingo
29 cards at the same time;

30 (v) is used by the State Lottery Commission under Title 9 of the
31 State Government Article; or

1 (vi) if legislation takes effect authorizing the operation of video
2 lottery terminals, is a video lottery terminal as defined in and licensed under that
3 legislation.

4 **Chapter 474 of the Acts of 2008**

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding the
6 provisions of Section 1 of this Act, an entity licensed to offer instant bingo under a
7 commercial bingo license as of July 1, 2007, or by a qualified organization as defined in
8 § 13–201 of this article on the premises of the qualified organization may continue to
9 operate a game of instant bingo in the same manner using electronic machines until
10 July 1, [2009] **2011**, provided that:

11 (a) [the machines have been in operation for a 1–year period ending
12 December 31, 2007;

13 (b)] the entity does not operate more than the number of electronic machines
14 operated as of February 28, 2008; and

15 [(c)] **(B)** the conduct of the gaming and operation of the machines is
16 consistent with all other provisions of the Criminal Law Article.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 June 1, 2009.