

# SENATE BILL 237

C7

9lr0503  
CF HB 146

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By: **Harford County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2009

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County – Gaming**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Sheriff of Harford County to charge a certain fee for  
4 a 50/50 license; increasing the maximum money prizes that may be awarded for  
5 certain games; authorizing certain organizations to conduct a game of 50/50 at a  
6 certain event if the organization acquires a license; and generally relating to  
7 gaming in Harford County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article – Criminal Law  
10 Section 13–1501(a), (c), and (f), 13–1502(a), and 13–1503(b)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Criminal Law  
15 Section 13–1503(d), 13–1504(b), 13–1505(c), and 13–1508  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Criminal Law**

21 13–1501.

22 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

4 (f) "Sheriff" means the Sheriff of Harford County.

5 13-1502.

6 (a) This subtitle applies only in Harford County.

7 13-1503.

8 (b) The following organizations may obtain a license to conduct a gaming  
9 event:

10 (1) a bona fide religious group that has conducted religious services at  
11 a fixed location in the county for at least 3 years before applying for a license;

12 (2) a State-chartered organization authorized by a nationally  
13 chartered veterans organization;

14 (3) a tax-supported volunteer fire company; or

15 (4) a nonprofit organization that intends to raise money for an  
16 exclusively charitable, athletic, or educational purpose which is specifically described  
17 in the application for a license.

18 (d) The sheriff shall charge the following license fees:

19 (1) \$5 for a bingo license;

20 (2) \$10 for a paddle wheel license;

21 (3) \$10 for a raffle license; [and]

22 (4) **\$10 FOR A 50/50 LICENSE; AND**

23 [(4)] (5) \$15 for a members-only instant bingo license.

24 13-1504.

25 (b) A money prize for a bingo game may not exceed:

26 (1) **[\$50] \$500**; or

27 (2) \$1,000 for a jackpot.

1 13-1505.

2 (c) A money prize for a members-only instant bingo game may not exceed  
3 ~~[\$50]~~ **\$500**.

4 13-1508.

5 (a) An organization listed in § 13-1503(b) of this subtitle may conduct a  
6 game of 50/50 [without a license.

7 (b) A game of 50/50 may only be conducted]:

8 (1) **WITHOUT A 50/50 LICENSE**, at a meeting of the organization; **OR**

9 (2) **WITH A 50/50 LICENSE, AT AN EVENT OTHER THAN A MEETING**  
10 **OF THE ORGANIZATION.**

11 ~~[(c)]~~ **(B)** A money prize for a game of 50/50 may not exceed ~~[\$50]~~ **\$500**.

12 ~~[(d)]~~ **(C)** A minor may not participate in a game of 50/50.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 July 1, 2009.