

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2012 Second Special Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 10 (Senator Colburn)  
Budget and Taxation

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**Dorchester County - Restriction on Sunday Gaming - Repeal**

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This bill repeals the prohibition on holding an authorized game or carnival on a Sunday.

The bill takes effect October 1, 2013.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** License and application fee revenues collected by the clerk of the circuit court for Dorchester County from authorized gaming events, including bingo-only events, increase by a minimal amount. The circuit court for Dorchester County can process additional gaming event and bingo license applications with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** In Dorchester County a qualified organization may conduct a gaming event (carnival, bazaar, or raffle) for the exclusive benefit of a qualified organization if an individual or group of individuals does not benefit financially from the gaming event or any of its proceeds. Qualified organizations include a volunteer fire company or bona fide religious, fraternal, civic, war veterans', or charitable organization. A gaming event must be managed personally through the members of the qualified organization.

A qualified organization (*e.g.*, certain religious groups, volunteer fire companies, and veterans' organizations) must attain a license for bingo that is not conducted in

connection with a gaming event (as described above). A person must have a license for each day that bingo is conducted. The license application must certify (1) the time and place for the licensed activities; (2) that bingo will be conducted and managed solely by regular members of the applicant organization; and (3) that no compensation or reward will be paid to any person conducting the bingo.

A license for a gaming event or bingo may not authorize a game or carnival on Sunday. Also, an individual under the age of 16 may not play, conduct, or operate bingo. License and application fees in Dorchester County are as follows: \$5 for a raffle or carnival, \$26 for an annual bingo license, and \$1 for a one-day bingo license.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Gaming license and application fees are collected by the clerk of the circuit court for Dorchester County. License and application fee revenues derived from raffles, carnivals, and bingo increase; however, given the level of the fees involved, the impact will be minimal. The clerk of the circuit court for Dorchester County can continue to process license applications with existing resources.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** SB 447 of 2012 passed the Senate and received a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee. Its cross file, HB 407, received a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee. No further action was taken on either bill.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - August 9, 2012  
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