

# HOUSE BILL 1459

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By: **Harford County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County – Gaming Events – License**

3 FOR the purpose of adding a certain nonstock corporation operating a chamber of  
4 commerce in Harford County to the list of organizations that may obtain a  
5 license to conduct a gaming event in Harford County; and generally relating to  
6 gaming events in Harford County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article – Criminal Law  
9 Section 13–1502(a)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Criminal Law  
14 Section 13–1503  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Criminal Law**

20 13–1502.

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

22 13–1503.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) Before an organization conducts a gaming event under this subtitle, the  
2 organization shall obtain a license from the sheriff.

3 (b) The following organizations may obtain a license to conduct a gaming  
4 event:

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

7 (2) a State-chartered organization authorized by a nationally  
8 chartered veterans organization;

9 (3) a tax-supported volunteer fire company; [or]

10 (4) a nonprofit organization that intends to raise money for an  
11 exclusively charitable, athletic, or educational purpose which is specifically described  
12 in the application for a license; OR

13 **(5) A BONA FIDE NONSTOCK CORPORATION THAT:**

14 **(I) OPERATES A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE COUNTY;**

15 **AND**

16 **(II) INTENDS TO RAISE MONEY EXCLUSIVELY TO SUPPORT**  
17 **THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.**

18 (c) An application for a license shall contain a certification by a principal  
19 officer of the organization that states:

20 (1) the scheduled time and place of the gaming event and the date of  
21 any raffle drawing;

22 (2) that the licensed activities will be managed and conducted solely  
23 and personally by the regular members of the organization without the assistance of  
24 gaming professionals;

25 (3) that all money prizes offered will comply with the limits listed in  
26 this subtitle;

27 (4) that the organization, by one of its principal officers, shall, within  
28 15 days after the last day named in the application for conducting the licensed  
29 activities, file a report under penalties of perjury containing the information required  
30 by § 13-1509 of this subtitle; and

1           (5) if the organization is a nonprofit organization that intends to raise  
2 money for an exclusively charitable, athletic, or educational purpose, a specific  
3 description of the purpose.

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

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

6                 (2) \$10 for a paddle wheel license;

7                 (3) \$10 for a raffle license;

8                 (4) \$10 for a 50/50 license; and

9                 (5) \$15 for a members-only instant bingo license.

10           (e) An activity for which a license is issued under this subtitle must be  
11 conducted and managed solely and personally by regular members of the organization:

12                 (1) who do not regularly conduct gaming activities for any other  
13 organization; and

14                 (2) without the assistance of gaming professionals.

15           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
16 October 1, 2014.