

HOUSE BILL 127

C7
HB 59/15 – W&M

6lr1327
CF SB 311

By: **Delegates Reznik, Buckel, Ebersole, Frush, Glass, Glenn, Grammer, Holmes, Hornberger, C. Howard, Kipke, Lam, Luedtke, Pendergrass, Valderrama, West, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2016
Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: February 23, 2016

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Gaming – Home Games**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing an individual who is at least a certain age to conduct a home
4 game involving wagering if the home game is conducted in a certain manner; and
5 generally relating to gaming.

6 BY adding to
7 Article – Criminal Law
8 Section 12–115
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Criminal Law**

14 **12–115.**

15 **NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE, AN INDIVIDUAL**
16 **WHO IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD MAY CONDUCT A HOME GAME INVOLVING WAGERING**
17 **IF THE HOME GAME:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (1) IS LIMITED TO MAH JONG OR A CARD GAME;

2 (2) IS CONDUCTED NOT MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK:

3 (I) IN THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MAY
4 ALSO PARTICIPATE AS A PLAYER IN THE HOME GAME; OR

5 (II) IN A COMMON AREA OF A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY THAT IS
6 RESTRICTED TO RESIDENTS WHO ARE AT LEAST 55 YEARS OLD;

7 (3) ALLOWS A PLAYER TO COMPETE DIRECTLY AGAINST ONE OR MORE
8 OTHER PLAYERS WHO SHARE A PREEXISTING SOCIAL RELATIONSHIP;

9 (4) DOES NOT ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL TO BENEFIT FINANCIALLY IN
10 ANY WAY, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OTHER THAN FROM THE WINNINGS ACCRUED
11 BY PARTICIPATING AS A PLAYER IN THE GAME;

12 (5) DOES NOT INVOLVE:

13 (I) A PLAYER'S USE OF AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE THAT
14 CONNECTS TO THE INTERNET;

15 (II) THE USE OF PAID PUBLIC ADVERTISING OR PROMOTIONS;

16 (III) THE CHARGING OF A FEE FOR ADMISSION, A SEAT,
17 ENTERTAINMENT, OR FOOD AND DRINK OR ANY OTHER FEE; OR

18 (IV) THE USE OF ANY MONEY EXCEPT MONEY USED FOR
19 WAGERING; AND

20 (6) HAS A LIMIT OF ~~\$2,000~~ \$500 ON THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY
21 ~~OR~~ TOKENS REPRESENTING MONEY, OR ANY OTHER THING OR CONSIDERATION OF
22 VALUE THAT MAY BE WAGERED BY ALL PLAYERS DURING ANY 24-HOUR PERIOD.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2016.