

SENATE BILL 836

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By: **Senators King, DeGrange, Edwards, Feldman, Guzzone, Kasemeyer, Klausmeier, McFadden, Middleton, Norman, Peters, Salling, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2018

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Expansion of Commercial Gaming – Referendum – Sports Wagering**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that the General Assembly may authorize, by law, the State
4 Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to issue certain sports wagering licenses;
5 submitting this Act to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State; requiring the
6 State Board of Elections to do certain things necessary to provide for and hold the
7 referendum; and generally relating to sports wagering in the State.

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
9 That the General Assembly may authorize, by law, the State Lottery and Gaming Control
10 Commission to issue a license to offer sports wagering in the State.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of Section 1 of
12 this Act that authorize the General Assembly to authorize, by law, the State Lottery and
13 Gaming Control Commission to offer sports wagering licenses in the State, are subject to a
14 referendum of the qualified voters of Maryland as provided in Section 3 of this Act, and on
15 voter approval of this Act at the general election to be held in November 2018, legislation
16 shall be required to provide for the operation, regulation, and disposition of proceeds of
17 sports wagering in the State.

18 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That before this Act, which
19 authorizes additional forms or expansion of commercial gaming, becomes effective, it first
20 shall be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State at the general
21 election to be held in November 2018, in accordance with Article XIX, § 1(e) of the Maryland
22 Constitution. The State Board of Elections shall do those things necessary and proper to
23 provide for and hold the referendum required by this section. If a majority of the votes cast
24 on the question are “For the referred law”, this Act shall become effective on the 30th day
25 following the official canvass of votes for the referendum, but if a majority of the votes cast
26 on the question are “Against the referred law”, this Act, with no further action required by
27 the General Assembly, shall be null and void.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of
2 Section 3 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum required by
3 Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2018.