SENATE BILL 297

By: Senators Young and Hough
Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2022
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation
Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 1, 2022

CHAPTER ______

1 AN ACT concerning

Gaming – Sports Wagering Facilities – Locations

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Sports Wagering Application Review Commission from
awarding a sports wagering license to a facility located within a certain mile radius
of certain Class B–1 or B–2 sports wagering facilities located in certain counties; and
generally relating to sports wagering.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – State Government
Section 9–1E–06(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2021 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – State Government

9–1E–06.

(a) (1) On an award of a license by the Sports Wagering Application Review
Commission established under § 9–1E–15 of this subtitle, the Commission shall:

(i) issue a Class A–1 sports wagering facility license to an applicant
that meets the requirements for licensure under this subtitle who is:

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. a video lottery operator with more than 1,000 video lottery terminals; or

2. A. the owner, or the designee of the owner, of a stadium in Prince George’s County that is primarily used for professional football (NFL);

   B. the owner, or the designee of the owner, of a professional football (NFL) franchise that is a lessee of a stadium in Baltimore City;

   C. the owner, or the designee of the owner, of a professional major league baseball franchise that is a lessee of a stadium in Baltimore City;

   D. the owner, or the designee of the owner, of a professional hockey league (NHL) franchise, that is a lessee of a stadium in the State;

   E. the owner, or the designee of the owner, of a professional basketball association (NBA) franchise, that is a lessee of a stadium in the State; or

   F. the owner, or the designee of the owner, of a professional soccer league (MLS) franchise, that is a lessee of a stadium in the State;

(ii) issue a Class A–2 sports wagering facility license to an applicant that meets the requirements for licensure under this subtitle who is:

1. a video lottery operator with 1,000 or fewer video lottery terminals; or

2. a horse racing licensee;

(iii) subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, issue a Class B–1 sports wagering facility license to any applicant who meets the requirements for licensure under this subtitle and who is not eligible for a Class B–2 sports wagering facility license;

(iv) subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, issue a Class B–2 sports wagering facility license to any applicant who is a person with less than:

1. 25 full–time equivalent employees; or

2. $3,000,000 in annual gross receipts; and

(v) issue not more than 60 mobile sports wagering licenses to any applicant who meets the requirements for licensure under this subtitle.
(2) (i) The Commission shall issue a Class B–1 or Class B–2 sports wagering facility license to an applicant that meets the requirements for licensure under this subtitle who is:

1. the holder of a license issued by the State Racing Commission under § 11–524 of the Business Regulation Article, including a subsidiary of the license holder;

2. a person who is the owner or lessee of a facility approved for satellite simulcast betting before January 1, 2021, unless the satellite simulcast facility is located at a video lottery facility or a racetrack; and

3. a person who holds a commercial bingo license, if the facility at which the person operates commercial bingo was permitted to operate at least 200 electronic bingo machines or electronic tip jar machines on January 1, 2021.

(ii) In addition to the Class B–1 and B–2 sports wagering facility licenses issued in accordance with subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Commission may issue not more than 30 Class B–1 and Class B–2 sports wagering facility licenses under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(3) The Sports Wagering Application Review Commission established under § 9–1E–15 of this subtitle may not award a Class B–1 or B–2 sports wagering facility license to an applicant:

(i) who is eligible to apply for a Class A–1 or A–2 sports wagering facility license under paragraph (1) of this subsection;

(ii) who holds a Class A–1 or A–2 sports wagering facility license; or

(iii) whose sports wagering facility will be located:

1. within a 15–mile radius of a Class A–1 or A–2 sports wagering facility located in Allegany County, Cecil County, or Worcester County; [or]

2. EXCEPT AS REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION, WITHIN A 10–MILE RADIUS OF A CLASS B–1 OR B–2 SPORTS WAGERING FACILITY LICENSED TO A PERSON DESCRIBED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND LOCATED IN CALVERT COUNTY, CARROLL COUNTY, CHARLES COUNTY, OR FREDERICK COUNTY, OR WASHINGTON COUNTY; OR

[2.] 3. within a 1.5–mile radius of a Class A–1 or A–2 sports wagering facility located in a county not described under item 1 of this item or any other Class B–1 or B–2 sports wagering facility.
(4) A for-profit entity, nonprofit organization, or public–private partnership operating at the racing location described under Title 11, Subtitle 7 of the Business Regulation Article located on lands owned by the Department of Natural Resources may apply for a Class B–1 or B–2 sports wagering facility license.

(5) If an applicant designates an entity to hold the license under paragraph (1)(i)2 of this subsection, the designee shall be considered the applicant and subject to the requirements of the application process.

(6) In addition to any other person, an applicant for or holder of a Class A–1, A–2, B–1, or B–2 sports wagering facility license may apply for a mobile sports wagering license under this subsection.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2022.

Approved:

__________________________________________
Governor.

__________________________________________
President of the Senate.

__________________________________________
Speaker of the House of Delegates.