SENATE BILL 858

By: Senator Guzzone
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Gaming – Electronic Instant Bingo Machines – Maximum Number of Machines

FOR the purpose of allowing an entity licensed to offer instant bingo under a commercial bingo license on a certain date to operate up to a certain number of electronic instant bingo machines; and generally relating to electronic instant bingo machines.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Criminal Law
Section 12–308
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2021 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Section 3

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

Article – Criminal Law

12–308.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this subtitle, an entity licensed to offer instant bingo under a commercial bingo license on July 1, 2007, or by a qualified organization as defined in § 13–201 of this article on the premises of the qualified organization may continue to operate a game of instant bingo in the same manner using electronic machines, provided that:

(1) (i) the machines were in operation for a 1–year period ending December 31, 2007; or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
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(ii) the machines were in operation under a commercial bingo license on December 31, 2007;

(2)  (I) [the entity] IF THE ENTITY OPERATED 200 OR MORE ELECTRONIC MACHINES ON FEBRUARY 28, 2008, IT does not operate more than the number of electronic machines in operation on February 28, 2008; OR

(II) IF THE ENTITY OPERATED FEWER THAN 200 ELECTRONIC MACHINES ON FEBRUARY 28, 2008, IT DOES NOT OPERATE MORE THAN 199 ELECTRONIC MACHINES; and

(3) the conduct of the gaming and operation of the machines are consistent with all other provisions of this article.

Chapter 603 of the Acts of 2012

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, a licensee or organization that is authorized under State law to own or operate electronic bingo machines for use after July 1, 2012, may repair and replace the authorized electronic bingo machines provided that the machines operate in the same manner as those in operation by the same organization as of February 28, 2008[, and that the organization does not operate more than the number of electronic bingo machines in operation as of February 28, 2008].

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