

# SENATE BILL 706

C7, J1  
HB 1029/24 – W&M

5lr3181  
CF HB 700

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By: ~~Senators Zucker and Guzzone~~, Guzzone, Benson, Corderman, Hettleman,  
M. Jackson, Jennings, King, Lewis Young, McCray, Rosapepe, and Salling

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2025

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 21, 2025

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Gaming – Problem Gambling – Prevalence Study and Fund Revenue**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health to conduct certain  
4 prevalence studies concerning problem and pathological mobile gambling; altering  
5 the distribution of certain fantasy competition and sports wagering proceeds; and  
6 generally relating to problem gambling and the Problem Gambling Fund.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Health – General

9 Section 19–804

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

12 BY adding to

13 Article – State Government

14 Section 9–1A–33(b)(7)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

18 Article – State Government

19 Section 9–1D–04 and 9–1E–12(b)

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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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 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
2 Article – State Government  
3 Section 9–1E–12(a)  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

8 **Article – Health – General**

9 19–804.

10 (a) (1) The Secretary shall make grants from or agreements for the use of State  
11 funds, including the funds provided under § 9–1A–33 of the State Government Article, and  
12 federal funds to help public agencies or nonprofit organizations operate the network of  
13 clinically appropriate services for problem gamblers who reside in the State to provide the  
14 following:

- 15 (i) Inpatient and residential services;
- 16 (ii) Outpatient services;
- 17 (iii) Intensive outpatient services;
- 18 (iv) Continuing care services;
- 19 (v) Educational services;
- 20 (vi) Services for victims of domestic violence; and
- 21 (vii) Other preventive or rehabilitative services or treatment.

22 (2) Research and training that are designed to improve or extend these  
23 services are proper items of expense.

24 (b) The Secretary shall conduct [a]:

25 (1) A prevalence study and replication prevalence studies to measure the  
26 rate of problem and pathological IN–PERSON gambling in the State; AND

27 (2) A PREVALENCE STUDY AND REPLICATION PREVALENCE STUDIES  
28 TO MEASURE THE RATE OF PROBLEM AND PATHOLOGICAL MOBILE GAMBLING IN  
29 THE STATE.

1 (c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Secretary shall contract  
2 with an independent researcher to conduct the prevalence studies.

3 (2) The Secretary shall utilize the most current psychiatric or diagnostic  
4 criteria for problem and pathological gambling as the basis for the prevalence studies.

5 (d) (1) The initial prevalence study **ON PROBLEM AND PATHOLOGICAL**  
6 **IN-PERSON GAMBLING IN THE STATE** shall be completed on or before July 1, 2009.

7 (2) **THE INITIAL PREVALENCE STUDY ON PROBLEM AND**  
8 **PATHOLOGICAL MOBILE GAMBLING IN THE STATE SHALL BE COMPLETED ON OR**  
9 **BEFORE JULY 1, 2030.**

10 (e) Replication prevalence studies shall be conducted no less than every 5 years  
11 with measures taken to permit comparisons between the initial prevalence study and  
12 subsequent replication prevalence studies.

13 (f) Services under this subtitle shall be provided by public agencies or, under  
14 contract, by nonprofit organizations.

#### 15 Article – State Government

16 9–1A–33.

17 (b) (7) **ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2026, AND EACH NOVEMBER 1**  
18 **THEREAFTER, THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE**  
19 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1257 OF THIS ARTICLE, ON HOW**  
20 **THE FUNDS IN THE PROBLEM GAMBLING FUND HAVE BEEN EXPENDED ON**  
21 **PROBLEM GAMBLING TREATMENT AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS UNDER THIS**  
22 **SUBSECTION.**

23 9–1D–04.

24 (a) A fantasy competition operator shall retain [85%] 84% of the proceeds and  
25 pay the remainder to the Commission.

26 (b) [The Commission shall distribute the proceeds paid] **FROM THE**  
27 **REMAINDER OF THE PROCEEDS PAID TO THE COMMISSION** under subsection (a) of this  
28 section, **THE COMMISSION SHALL PAY THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS:**

29 (1) **93.75%** to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Fund established under  
30 § 5–206 of the Education Article; **AND**

31 (2) **6.25% TO THE PROBLEM GAMBLING FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER**  
32 **§ 9–1A–33 OF THIS TITLE.**

1 9-1E-12.

2 (a) (1) The Commission shall account to the Comptroller for all of the revenue  
3 under this subtitle.

4 (2) The proceeds from sports wagering, less the amount retained by the  
5 licensee under subsection (b)(1) of this section, shall be under the control of the Comptroller  
6 and distributed as provided under subsection (b) of this section.

7 (b) (1) (i) Except as provided in subparagraphs (ii), (iii), and (iv) of this  
8 paragraph, all proceeds from sports wagering shall be electronically transferred monthly  
9 into the State Lottery Fund established under Subtitle 1 of this title.

10 (ii) A Class A-1 and A-2 sports wagering facility licensee shall  
11 retain ~~[85%]~~ **84%** of the proceeds from sports wagering conducted at the locations described  
12 in § 9-1E-09(a) of this subtitle.

13 (iii) A Class B-1 and B-2 sports wagering facility licensee shall  
14 retain ~~[85%]~~ **84%** of the proceeds from sports wagering conducted at the location described  
15 in the licensee's application.

16 (iv) A mobile sports wagering licensee shall retain ~~[85%]~~ **84%** of the  
17 proceeds from online sports wagering received by the licensee.

18 (2) All proceeds from sports wagering in the State Lottery Fund  
19 established under Subtitle 1 of this title shall be distributed on a monthly basis, on a  
20 properly approved transmittal prepared by the Commission **AS FOLLOWS:**

21 **(I) 93.75%** to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund established  
22 under § 5-206 of the Education Article; **AND**

23 **(II) 6.25% TO THE PROBLEM GAMBLING FUND ESTABLISHED**  
24 **UNDER § 9-1A-33 OF THIS TITLE.**

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
26 1, 2025.