

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 841 (Charles County Delegation)
Ways and Means

Gaming - Charles County Gaming Permit Review Board - Repeal

This bill repeals the Charles County Gaming Permit Review Board, and the county attorney must assume the board’s duties and responsibilities.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill only affects local government operations.

Local Effect: Repealing the Charles County Gaming Permit Review Board and transferring responsibilities to the Charles County attorney has no fiscal impact as the Charles County attorney has already assumed the board’s duties and responsibilities.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Charles County Gaming Permit Review Board consists of seven members, including a representative of the Charles County Sheriff’s Office, a representative of the Department of State Police, a representative of a fundraising organization in the community, an individual with a background and experience in finance, and three individuals appointed from the county at large. Additionally, each board member must be a resident of Charles County. The board’s chairperson is selected from among its members for a term set by the board.

The board may make recommendations to the county commissioners regarding the types of gaming devices that may be operated in the county, the approval or denial of gaming permits, and any modifications of the county gaming regulations and procedures.

The board must review gaming permit applications at least quarterly, review gaming regulations and permit procedures, keep specified records, and undertake any other duties relating to gaming regulation that the county commissioners delegate. As the county commissioners consider appropriate, the county commissioners must provide for the board a clerk, legal counsel, supplies, and funding, and the county commissioners may pay salaries to the board members.

Charles County Gaming Events

A gaming event may only be conducted by a fundraising organization that has been located in the county for at least five years before applying for a gaming permit, and a fundraising organization must obtain a gaming permit for each gaming event that the fundraising organization conducts. A gaming event is an event that involves a game of chance, and includes a carnival, a bazaar, and a raffle involving prizes exceeding \$1,000.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 730 (Charles County Senators) - Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Charles County; Maryland State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 2025
km/jrb

Analysis by: Heather N. MacDonagh

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510