

HOUSE BILL 518

C7
HB 465/25 – W&M

6lr2142

By: **Delegates Palakovich Carr, Allen, Ebersole, Feldmark, Miller, Mireku–North, and ~~Young~~ Young, Hornberger, Pasteur, Patterson, Wilkins, and Wims**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Gaming – Problem Gambling and College Athlete Protections**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to adopt
4 certain regulations to reduce or mitigate the effects of problem gambling; requiring
5 the regulations to establish a voluntary exclusion list; requiring the Commission to
6 provide contact information of certain individuals to the Maryland Center for
7 Excellence on Problem Gambling under certain circumstances; ~~prohibiting certain~~
8 ~~individuals under a certain age from participating in fantasy competitions and~~
9 ~~prohibiting a fantasy competition operator from offering certain fantasy~~
10 ~~competitions or services to certain individuals under a certain age;~~ prohibiting an
11 individual from wagering on and prohibiting a sports wagering licensee from offering
12 or accepting a wager on certain player–specific proposition bets; requiring a sports
13 wagering licensee to provide certain transactional and metrics data to certain
14 universities for certain purposes; and generally relating to problem gambling
15 protections and player–specific proposition wagers.

16 BY adding to

17 Article – State Government

18 Section 9–109(d), 9–1E–04(b)(7) and (8) and (d), 9–1E–09(f), 9–1E–11(f), (g), and (h),
19 and 9–1E–18

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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 Article – State Government
2 Section 9–1A–24(e), ~~9–1D–02~~, 9–1D–05, 9–1E–04(b)(6)(xiii) and (7), and 9–1E–11(b)
3 Annotated Code of Maryland
4 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

5 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
6 Article – State Government
7 Section 9–1E–11(a)(7)
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – State Government**

13 9–109.

14 **(D) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ARE**
15 **INTENDED TO REDUCE OR MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF PROBLEM GAMBLING.**

16 **(2) THE REGULATIONS SHALL:**

17 **(I) ESTABLISH A VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION LIST OF INDIVIDUALS**
18 **WITH GAMBLING PROBLEMS WHO HAVE REQUESTED TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE**
19 **STATE LOTTERY, A GAME, OR A FACILITY THAT OFFERS A GAME AUTHORIZED UNDER**
20 **THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

21 **(II) PROVIDE A SIMPLE MECHANISM FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS**
22 **SOBER AND INFORMED TO REQUEST PLACEMENT ON THE VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION**
23 **LIST FOR A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME.**

24 **(3) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, ON**
25 **ACCEPTANCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL’S APPLICATION TO BE PLACED ON THE VOLUNTARY**
26 **EXCLUSION LIST, THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE THE CONTACT INFORMATION**
27 **OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM**
28 **GAMBLING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION**
29 **ABOUT FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING ASSISTANCE.**

30 **(II) IF AN INDIVIDUAL AFFIRMATIVELY DECLINES TO HAVE THE**
31 **INDIVIDUAL’S CONTACT INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR**
32 **EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING, THE COMMISSION MAY NOT PROVIDE THE**
33 **CONTACT INFORMATION TO THE CENTER.**

34 9–1A–24.

1 (e) (1) By regulation, the Commission shall adopt measures that are intended
2 to reduce or mitigate the effects of problem gambling.

3 (2) (I) The regulations shall:

4 [(i)] 1. [include establishment of] **ESTABLISH** a voluntary
5 exclusion list of individuals with gambling problems who have requested to be excluded
6 from any video lottery operation licensed under this subtitle; and

7 [(ii)] 2. provide a simple mechanism for an individual who is sober
8 and informed to request placement on the voluntary exclusion list for a specified period of
9 time.

10 (II) 1. **SUBJECT TO SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 2 OF THIS**
11 **SUBPARAGRAPH, ON ACCEPTANCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S APPLICATION TO BE PLACED**
12 **ON THE VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION LIST, THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE THE**
13 **CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR**
14 **EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE**
15 **INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION ABOUT FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL RESPONSIBLE**
16 **GAMBLING ASSISTANCE.**

17 2. **IF AN INDIVIDUAL AFFIRMATIVELY DECLINES TO**
18 **HAVE THE INDIVIDUAL'S CONTACT INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE MARYLAND**
19 **CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING, THE COMMISSION MAY NOT**
20 **PROVIDE THE CONTACT INFORMATION TO THE CENTER.**

21 (3) A video lottery operation licensee may not permit an individual on the
22 voluntary exclusion list to enter into the video lottery facility or to play a video lottery
23 terminal.

24 (4) The Commission may impose sanctions on a licensee in accordance with
25 this subtitle if the licensee knowingly fails to exclude from the premises of the licensee an
26 individual on the voluntary exclusion list.

27 ~~9-1D-02.~~

28 ~~(a) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Title 12 of the Criminal Law Article~~
29 ~~or any other title, and except as provided under [subsection (b) of this section] **PARAGRAPH**~~
30 ~~**(2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,** the prohibitions against betting, wagering, and gambling do~~
31 ~~not apply to participation in a fantasy competition.~~

32 ~~[(b)] (2) A person may not operate a kiosk or machine that offers fantasy~~
33 ~~competition to the public in a place of business physically located in the State.~~

~~(B) (1) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD AND UNDER THE AGE OF 21 YEARS WHO CREATED A FANTASY COMPETITION ACCOUNT WITH A REGISTERED FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026.~~

~~(2) AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 21 YEARS MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN A FANTASY COMPETITION.~~

~~(3) A FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR MAY NOT OFFER A FANTASY COMPETITION OR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH A FANTASY COMPETITION TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS UNDER THE AGE OF 21 YEARS.~~

9-1D-05.

(a) The Commission shall adopt regulations THAT ESTABLISH:

(1) (I) A VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION LIST OF INDIVIDUALS WITH GAMBLING PROBLEMS WHO HAVE REQUESTED TO BE EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATING IN ANY FANTASY COMPETITION AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND

(II) A SIMPLE MECHANISM FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SOBER AND INFORMED TO REQUEST PLACEMENT ON THE VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION LIST FOR A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME; AND

(2) ANY OTHER REGULATION NECESSARY to carry out the provisions of this subtitle.

(b) (1) [The regulations adopted under this section may include requirements for the establishment of a voluntary exclusion list] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ON ACCEPTANCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S APPLICATION TO BE PLACED ON THE VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION LIST ESTABLISHED BY REGULATION UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1)(I) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE THE CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION ABOUT FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING ASSISTANCE.

(2) IF AN INDIVIDUAL AFFIRMATIVELY DECLINES TO HAVE THE INDIVIDUAL'S CONTACT INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING, THE COMMISSION MAY NOT PROVIDE THE CONTACT INFORMATION TO THE CENTER.

9-1E-04.

1 (b) In accordance with this subtitle, the Commission shall adopt regulations that
2 establish:

3 (6) standards, procedures, and rules that govern the conduct of sports
4 wagering, including:

5 (xiii) establishing a list of individuals who are to be mandatorily
6 excluded or ejected by a sports wagering licensee from any facility or website operated by a
7 sports wagering licensee; [and]

8 **(7) A VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION LIST OF INDIVIDUALS WITH GAMBLING
9 PROBLEMS WHO HAVE REQUESTED TO BE EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATING IN
10 SPORTS WAGERING AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;**

11 **(8) A SIMPLE MECHANISM FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SOBER AND
12 INFORMED TO REQUEST PLACEMENT ON THE VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION LIST FOR A
13 SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME; AND**

14 **[(7)] (9)** any other regulation necessary to carry out the provisions of this
15 subtitle.

16 **(D) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ON
17 ACCEPTANCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S APPLICATION TO BE PLACED ON THE VOLUNTARY
18 EXCLUSION LIST ESTABLISHED BY REGULATION UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(7) OF THIS
19 SECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE THE CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE
20 INDIVIDUAL TO THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM
21 GAMBLING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION
22 ABOUT FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING ASSISTANCE.**

23 **(2) IF AN INDIVIDUAL AFFIRMATIVELY DECLINES TO HAVE THE
24 INDIVIDUAL'S CONTACT INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR
25 EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING, THE COMMISSION MAY NOT PROVIDE THE
26 CONTACT INFORMATION TO THE CENTER.**

27 9-1E-09.

28 **(F) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "PROPOSITION BET" MEANS A WAGER ON AN
29 INDIVIDUAL ACTION, STATISTIC, OCCURRENCE, OR NONOCCURRENCE, WHETHER
30 RELATED TO AN INDIVIDUAL PLAYER OR TEAM, THE OUTCOME OF WHICH IS NOT
31 DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THE FINAL OUTCOME OR FINAL SCORE OF A SPORTING
32 EVENT.**

1 **(2) (I) A SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE MAY NOT OFFER OR**
2 **ACCEPT A WAGER ON A PLAYER-SPECIFIC PROPOSITION BET ON A PARTICIPANT IN**
3 **A COLLEGIATE SPORTS OR ATHLETIC EVENT.**

4 **(II) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT PLACE A WAGER ON A**
5 **PLAYER-SPECIFIC PROPOSITION BET ON A PARTICIPANT IN A COLLEGIATE SPORTS**
6 **OR ATHLETIC EVENT.**

7 9-1E-11.

8 (a) An individual may not wager on a sporting event and a sports wagering
9 licensee may not accept a wager from an individual on a sporting event if the individual:

10 (7) is identified on a mandatory or voluntary sports wagering exclusion list
11 maintained by the Commission;

12 (b) For online sports wagering, a mobile sports wagering licensee shall:

13 (1) have in place technical and operational measures to prevent access by
14 individuals who are underage or physically located outside the State, including:

15 (i) age verification procedures, which may require the use of a
16 reputable independent third party that is in the business of verifying an individual's
17 personally identifiable information; [and]

18 (ii) **AGE AND IDENTITY VERIFICATION PROCEDURES, THAT**
19 **REQUIRE THE VERIFICATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S AGE AND IDENTITY AT THE TIME**
20 **THE INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHES A SPORTS WAGERING ACCOUNT AND PERIODICALLY**
21 **REQUIRES REVERIFICATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S IDENTITY; AND**

22 **(III) the use of geolocation technology to verify a bettor's geographic**
23 **location;**

24 (2) include on its online sports wagering website a description of the
25 possible repercussions for an underage or out-of-state bettor, which may include
26 immediate stoppage of play, account closure, and forfeiture and confiscation of winnings;
27 [and]

28 (3) establish procedures to prevent prohibited individuals from wagering
29 on sporting events;

30 **(4) CAUSE THE WORDS "IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS A**
31 **GAMBLING PROBLEM AND WANTS HELP, CALL 1-800-GAMBLER" OR SOME**
32 **COMPARABLE LANGUAGE APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION TO BE DISPLAYED**

1 PROMINENTLY AT LOG-ON AND LOG-OFF TIMES TO ANY INDIVIDUAL VISITING OR
2 LOGGED ONTO AN ONLINE SPORTS WAGERING PLATFORM;

3 (5) REQUIRE AN ONLINE SPORTS WAGERING ACCOUNT HOLDER TO
4 ESTABLISH A SELF-IMPOSED LIMIT ON THE AMOUNT OF MONEY DEPOSITED WITHIN
5 A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME AND THE LENGTH OF TIME THE ACCOUNT HOLDER
6 WILL BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS WAGERING AND MAKE ADDITIONAL
7 DEPOSITS IF THE ACCOUNT HOLDER REACHES THE ESTABLISHED SELF-IMPOSED
8 DEPOSIT LIMIT;

9 (6) PROVIDE A MECHANISM BY WHICH AN ONLINE SPORTS WAGERING
10 ACCOUNT HOLDER MAY ESTABLISH A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ONLINE SPORTS
11 WAGERING ACTIVITY THROUGH THE ACCOUNT FOR ANY NUMBER OF HOURS OR
12 DAYS;

13 (7) PROHIBIT THE USE OF CREDIT CARDS FOR ANY ONLINE SPORTS
14 WAGERING-RELATED TRANSACTIONS; AND

15 (8) (I) CAUSE THE DISPLAY OF A PROBLEM GAMBLING
16 DISCLOSURE CONCERNING THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH GAMBLING AND THE
17 SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO PROBLEM GAMBLERS AT ACCOUNT LOGIN;

18 (II) REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL TO CERTIFY THAT THE
19 INDIVIDUAL HAS READ THE DISCLOSURE DESCRIBED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS ITEM
20 BEFORE ESTABLISHING AN ONLINE SPORTS WAGERING ACCOUNT; AND

21 (III) REQUIRE EACH USER TO CERTIFY ON A MONTHLY BASIS
22 THAT THE USER HAS READ THE DISCLOSURE DESCRIBED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS
23 ITEM.

24 (F) IF A SUSPENSION OF SPORTS WAGERING ACTIVITY UNDER SUBSECTION
25 (B)(6) OF THIS SECTION IS IMPOSED BY THE ACCOUNT HOLDER FOR AT LEAST 72
26 HOURS, THE SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE MAY NOT SEND SPORTS
27 WAGERING-RELATED ELECTRONIC MAIL TO THE ACCOUNT HOLDER UNTIL THE
28 SUSPENSION EXPIRES.

29 (G) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A
30 SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE SHALL PROVIDE A MECHANISM BY WHICH AN
31 ACCOUNT HOLDER MAY PERIODICALLY CHANGE THE CONTROLS ON SPORTS
32 WAGERING ACTIVITY IMPOSED BY THE ACCOUNT HOLDER UNDER THIS SECTION.

33 (2) IF THE ACCOUNT IS SUSPENDED BY THE ACCOUNT HOLDER
34 UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(6) OF THIS SECTION, THE ACCOUNT HOLDER MAY NOT

1 CHANGE THE CONTROLS ON SPORTS WAGERING ACTIVITY UNTIL THE SUSPENSION
2 EXPIRES.

3 (3) IF AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKS TO INCREASE THE LIMIT ON THE
4 AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT THE INDIVIDUAL MAY DEPOSIT WITHIN A PERIOD OF TIME
5 SPECIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(5) OF THIS SECTION, THE SPORTS WAGERING
6 LICENSEE MAY NOT REFLECT THE INCREASED LIMIT FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS OR
7 UNTIL AFTER THE TIME PERIOD OF THE PREVIOUS LIMIT HAS EXPIRED, WHICHEVER
8 IS LATER.

9 (H) NOTWITHSTANDING A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SPORTS WAGERING
10 ACTIVITY IMPOSED BY AN ACCOUNT HOLDER UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(6) OF THIS
11 SECTION, THE ACCOUNT HOLDER MAY CONTINUE TO HAVE ACCESS TO THE ACCOUNT
12 AND IS AUTHORIZED TO WITHDRAW FUNDS FROM THE ACCOUNT ON PROPER
13 APPLICATION TO THE SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE.

14 9-1E-18.

15 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, "TRANSACTIONAL DATA AND METRICS" MEANS
16 DATA AND METRICS RELATING TO SPORTS WAGERING PARTICIPANTS IN THE STATE.

17 (2) "TRANSACTIONAL DATA AND METRICS" INCLUDES:

18 (I) ACCOUNT BANS AND SUSPENSIONS;

19 (II) COMPLAINTS BY SPORTS WAGERING PARTICIPANTS;

20 (III) THE AGES OF SPORTS WAGERING PARTICIPANTS;

21 (IV) THE GEOLOCATION OF SPORTS WAGERING PARTICIPANTS;

22 (V) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE USE OR UTILIZATION OF
23 RESPONSIBLE GAMING FEATURES BY SPORTS WAGERING PARTICIPANTS; AND

24 (VI) FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF SPORTS WAGERING
25 PARTICIPANTS IN THE STATE, INCLUDING:

26 1. BALANCE STATEMENTS;

27 2. BET LEVEL OR AMOUNTS;

28 3. BONUS USAGE;

1 4. DEPOSITS; AND

2 5. WITHDRAWALS.

3 **(B) (1) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, A SPORTS WAGERING**
4 **LICENSEE SHALL PROVIDE ALL TRANSACTIONAL DATA AND METRICS RELATED TO**
5 **SPORTS WAGERING CONDUCTED IN THE STATE AND ACQUIRED BY AN ONLINE**
6 **SPORTS WAGERING OPERATOR OF THE LICENSEE ON A QUARTERLY BASIS TO**
7 **MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF**
8 **MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.**

9 **(2) THE INFORMATION PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
10 **SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:**

11 **(I) THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS THAT THE SPORTS**
12 **WAGERING LICENSEE HAS IDENTIFIED AS ENGAGING IN ERRATIC OR INCREASED**
13 **GAMBLING BEHAVIOR; AND**

14 **(II) THE NUMBER AND LENGTH OF ANY BANS OR SUSPENSIONS**
15 **IN RESPONSE TO THE BEHAVIOR DESCRIBED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

16 **(C) THE TRANSACTIONAL DATA AND METRICS PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE**
17 **WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION:**

18 **(1) SHALL EXCLUDE ANY PERSONAL DATA AS DEFINED IN § 14-4801**
19 **OF THE COMMERCIAL LAW ARTICLE;**

20 **(2) ARE NOT SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE UNDER THE PUBLIC**
21 **INFORMATION ACT; AND**

22 **(3) MAY BE DISCLOSED BY MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, BOWIE**
23 **STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:**

24 **(I) ONLY AS NECESSARY TO CONDUCT RESEARCH; OR**

25 **(II) AS PART OF A PREVALENCE STUDY OR PEER-REVIEWED**
26 **REPORT.**

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before August 1, 2026,
28 the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission shall update its application form for
29 placement on the Commission's Voluntary Exclusion List to include a requirement that an
30 applicant affirmatively check a box labeled "NO CONTACT" should the applicant wish not
31 to be contacted by the Center for Excellence on Problem Gambling as required under §§

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1 9–109, 9–1A–24, 9–1D–05, or 9–1E–04 of the State Government Article, as enacted by
2 Section 1 of this Act.

3 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
4 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.