

HOUSE BILL 518

C7

6lr2142

HB 465/25 – W&M

By: **Delegates Palakovich Carr, Allen, Ebersole, Feldmark, Miller, Mireku-North, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

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,

23 Article – State Government

24 Section 9–1A–24(e), 9–1D–02, 9–1D–05, 9–1E–04(b)(6)(xiii) and (7), and 9–1E–11(b)
25 Annotated Code of Maryland

26 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

27 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Article – State Government
2 Section 9–1E–11(a)(7)
3 Annotated Code of Maryland
4 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – State Government**

8 9–109.

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

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

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

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

19 **(3) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, ON**
20 **ACCEPTANCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S APPLICATION TO BE PLACED ON THE VOLUNTARY**
21 **EXCLUSION LIST, THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE THE CONTACT INFORMATION**
22 **OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE MARYLAND CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE ON PROBLEM**
23 **GAMBLING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION**
24 **ABOUT FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING ASSISTANCE.**

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

29 9–1A–24.

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

32 **(2) (I) The regulations shall:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 9-1D-02.

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

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

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

6 9-1D-05.

7 (a) The Commission shall adopt regulations **THAT ESTABLISH:**

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

30 9-1E-04.

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

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

12 [7] (9) any other regulation necessary to carry out the provisions of this
13 subtitle.

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

25 9-1 E-09.

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

1 (II) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT PLACE A WAGER ON A
2 PLAYER-SPECIFIC PROPOSITION BET ON A PARTICIPANT IN A COLLEGIATE SPORTS
3 OR ATHLETIC EVENT.

4 9-1E-11.

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 (III) the use of geolocation technology to verify a bettor's geographic
20 location:

25 (3) establish procedures to prevent prohibited individuals from wagering
26 on sporting events;

27 (4) CAUSE THE WORDS "IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS A
28 GAMBLING PROBLEM AND WANTS HELP, CALL 1-800-GAMBLER" OR SOME
29 COMPARABLE LANGUAGE APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION TO BE DISPLAYED
30 PROMINENTLY AT LOG-ON AND LOG-OFF TIMES TO ANY INDIVIDUAL VISITING OR
31 LOGGED ONTO AN ONLINE SPORTS WAGERING PLATFORM;

32 (5) REQUIRE AN ONLINE SPORTS WAGERING ACCOUNT HOLDER TO
33 ESTABLISH A SELF-IMPOSED LIMIT ON THE AMOUNT OF MONEY DEPOSITED WITHIN

1 A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME AND THE LENGTH OF TIME THE ACCOUNT HOLDER
2 WILL BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS WAGERING AND MAKE ADDITIONAL
3 DEPOSITS IF THE ACCOUNT HOLDER REACHES THE ESTABLISHED SELF-IMPOSED
4 DEPOSIT LIMIT;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 (2) IF THE ACCOUNT IS SUSPENDED BY THE ACCOUNT HOLDER
30 UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(6) OF THIS SECTION, THE ACCOUNT HOLDER MAY NOT
31 CHANGE THE CONTROLS ON SPORTS WAGERING ACTIVITY UNTIL THE SUSPENSION
32 EXPIRES.

33 (3) IF AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKS TO INCREASE THE LIMIT ON THE
34 AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT THE INDIVIDUAL MAY DEPOSIT WITHIN A PERIOD OF TIME

1 SPECIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(5) OF THIS SECTION, THE SPORTS WAGERING
2 LICENSEE MAY NOT REFLECT THE INCREASED LIMIT FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS OR
3 UNTIL AFTER THE TIME PERIOD OF THE PREVIOUS LIMIT HAS EXPIRED, WHICHEVER
4 IS LATER.

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

10 9-1E-18.

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

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

14 (I) ACCOUNT BANS AND SUSPENSIONS;

15 (II) COMPLAINTS BY SPORTS WAGERING PARTICIPANTS;

16 (III) THE AGES OF SPORTS WAGERING PARTICIPANTS;

17 (IV) THE GEOLOCATION OF SPORTS WAGERING PARTICIPANTS;

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

20 (VI) FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF SPORTS WAGERING
21 PARTICIPANTS IN THE STATE, INCLUDING:

22 1. BALANCE STATEMENTS;

23 2. BET LEVEL OR AMOUNTS;

24 3. BONUS USAGE;

25 4. DEPOSITS; AND

26 5. WITHDRAWALS.

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

14 (C) THE TRANSACTIONAL DATA AND METRICS PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE
15 WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION:

18 (2) ARE NOT SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE UNDER THE PUBLIC
19 INFORMATION ACT; AND

20 (3) MAY BE DISCLOSED BY MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, BOWIE
21 STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:

(I) ONLY AS NECESSARY TO CONDUCT RESEARCH; OR

23 (II) AS PART OF A PREVALENCE STUDY OR PEER-REVIEWED
24 REPORT.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before August 1, 2026,
26 the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission shall update its application form for
27 placement on the Commission's Voluntary Exclusion List to include a requirement that an
28 applicant affirmatively check a box labeled "NO CONTACT" should the applicant wish not
29 to be contacted by the Center for Excellence on Problem Gambling as required under §§
30 9-109, 9-1A-24, 9-1D-05, or 9-1E-04 of the State Government Article, as enacted by
31 Section 1 of this Act.

32 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
33 1, 2026.