

# HOUSE BILL 1431

C7  
HB 526/24 – W&M

6lr2922

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By: **Delegate Buckel**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sports Wagering – Licenses – Application Period**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Sports Wagering Application Review Commission, subject  
4 to certain limitations, to accept and consider applications for sports wagering facility  
5 licenses and mobile sports wagering licenses submitted before a certain date; and  
6 generally relating to sports wagering and the Sports Wagering Application Review  
7 Commission.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – State Government  
10 Section 9–1E–15(h)(4)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – State Government**

16 9–1E–15.

17 (h) (4) The Sports Wagering Application Review Commission shall:

18 (i) to the extent permitted by federal and State law, actively seek to  
19 achieve racial, ethnic, and gender diversity when awarding licenses; [and]

20 (ii) encourage applicants who qualify as a minority business  
21 enterprise, as defined in § 14–301 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, or who  
22 are small, minority, or women–owned business entities to apply for sports wagering  
23 licenses under this subtitle; **AND**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   **(III) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS UNDER § 9-1E-06 OF THIS**  
2 **SUBTITLE, ACCEPT AND CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR A SPORTS WAGERING**  
3 **LICENSE THAT IS SUBMITTED BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2028.**

4           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
5 1, 2026.