

# HOUSE BILL 1609

C7  
HB 510/25 – W&M

6lr3694

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By: **Frederick County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 17, 2026

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Frederick County – Gaming – Acceptance of Credit as Payment**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain fire, rescue, and ambulance organizations  
4 conducting certain gaming events in Frederick County to accept credit from a person  
5 as payment to play a gaming device at the gaming event; and generally relating to  
6 accepting credit as payment to play a gaming device.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Criminal Law  
9 Section 12–108  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
13 Article – Criminal Law  
14 Section 13–1304(b)(2) and (3)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Criminal Law**

20 12–108.

21 (a) **THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO AN ORGANIZATION DESCRIBED**  
22 **UNDER § 13–1304(B)(2) OR (3) OF THIS ARTICLE CONDUCTING A GAMING EVENT FOR**  
23 **ITS OWN BENEFIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 13–1304 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(B)** An organization that operates a gaming event authorized under this subtitle,  
2 Subtitle 2 of this title, or Title 13 of this article may not accept credit from a person to allow  
3 that person to play a gaming device at the gaming event.

4           **[(b)] (C)** Subsection **[(a)] (B)** of this section does not prohibit an organization  
5 from accepting a token instead of money from a person who has paid the organization  
6 money for the use of the token.

7           **[(c)] (D)** An organization that violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor  
8 and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or loss of privileges to conduct a  
9 gaming event not exceeding 60 days or both.

10 13–1304.

11           (b) An organization may conduct a gaming event for its own benefit if the  
12 organization is:

13                   (2) a Frederick County volunteer:

14                           (i) fire company;

15                           (ii) rescue company; or

16                           (iii) ambulance company; or

17                   (3) an auxiliary for a Frederick County volunteer:

18                           (i) fire company;

19                           (ii) rescue company; or

20                           (iii) ambulance company.

21           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
22 1, 2026.