

SENATE BILL 617

C7, G1

6lr2998
CF HB 75

By: **Senator Watson**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2026

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Video Lottery Operations – Prohibitions on Campaign Contributions – Parity**
3 **Act**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the prohibition on applicants for and holders of video lottery
5 operation licenses and persons who own an interest in video lottery facility
6 operations in the State from directly or indirectly making contributions to certain
7 campaign finance entities; and generally relating to campaign finance contributions
8 by persons with an interest in video lottery operations.

9 BY repealing
10 Article – Election Law
11 Section 13–237
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Election Law**

17 [13–237.

18 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

19 (2) “Own” has the meaning stated in § 9–1A–01 of the State Government
20 Article.

21 (3) “Video lottery facility” has the meaning stated in § 9–1A–01 of the State
22 Government Article.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(4) “Video lottery operation license” has the meaning stated in § 9–1A–01 of the State Government Article.

(b) This section applies to the following persons:

(1) an applicant for a video lottery operation license;

(2) a holder of a video lottery operation license; or

(3) a person who owns an interest in the operation of a video lottery facility in this State.

(c) This section does not apply to gaming activity that an eligible organization is authorized to conduct under the Criminal Law Article.

(d) A person subject to this section may not, directly or indirectly, make a contribution to:

(1) the campaign finance entity of a candidate for any nonfederal public office in the State; or

(2) any other campaign finance entity organized in support of a candidate for any nonfederal public office in the State.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect January 1, 2027.