

SB 995_Bingo World_FAV.pdf

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Position: FAV



Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

March 24, 2022

RE: SB 995 – Gaming – Electronic Instant Bingo Machines – Expansion – FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

Arundel Amusements, Inc. dba Bingo World has been the owner and operator of a commercial bingo hall in Anne Arundel County since 1987. We currently have 105 employees, 64% of which are women or minorities. Our management team is 42% minority and female. We would like to thank the Sponsor for his leadership on this bill and ask for a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 995.

In 2012, this legislature passed a measure that capped the number of electronic instant bingo machines and the number of establishments that could utilize machines at those levels to a certain amount. This important piece of legislation would remove that cap and authorize those entities who already possess electronic instant bingo licenses to add up to 300 additional machines. We support Senate Bill 995 because it would create a fair and equitable solution for the ever-increasing demand for newer, faster, and more interactive forms of bingo machines. Maryland's bingo establishments have suffered greatly since the institution of casino gaming in our State, and we believe this legislation would not only allow us the opportunity to hire more employees and generate additional State and local tax revenue, but would allow us to continue to strive to stay competitive in this market and to reinvest in our community.

We respectfully ask for your **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 995 so that we may grow and serve our customers in the best way possible, and we appreciate your consideration of this important matter.

Thank you,

Randy Clemens
Owner, Bingo World

SB 995_Chesapeake Amusements_FAV.pdf

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Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

March 24, 2022

RE: SB 995 – Gaming – Electronic Instant Bingo Machines – Expansion – FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

Chesapeake Amusements, also known as Rod 'N' Reel Resort, is a family-owned business located in Chesapeake Beach in Calvert County, Maryland that began in 1946 as a restaurant and marina. As a result of numerous investments in our facilities over the years we now operate a full-service family entertainment resort.

We would like to thank the Sponsor for his leadership on Senate Bill 995 and ask the Committee for a **FAVORABLE** report as they deliberate this important matter. This bill would remove the prior cap on the number of electronic instant bingo machines allowed in our facility, and increase that amount by up to 300 additional machines. Rod 'N' Reel like many others in our industry has suffered due to the expansion of casino gaming in Maryland. Our goal in supporting this piece of legislation is to continue to allow our family business to stay competitive in an ever-evolving marketplace; additional machines would provide our customers with a wider array of entertainment opportunities.

We respectfully ask for your **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 995 and we appreciate your consideration of this important matter.

Thank you,

Mary E. Lanham
Owner, Rod 'N' Reel Resort