



February 9, 2023

Ways and Means Committee
Room 131, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Information – House Bill 257 - Gaming – Electronic Instant Bingo Machines – Maximum Number of Machines

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (“MLGCA” or “Agency”) submits this letter of information to the Ways and Means Committee (“Committee”), as background information regarding House Bill 257 – Gaming – Electronic Instant Bingo Machines – Maximum Number of Machines.

As the bill is currently drafted, it raises the number of Electronic Instant Bingo Machines (“Machines”) allowed under state law, and could result in the need for more Agency staff and potentially affect state revenues generated from Casinos. Raising the cap on machines may require MLGCA to hire more staff to keep up with the increase in the number of operating machines, as the total number currently authorized under state law is capped and allows our Agency to more easily budget when it comes to regulation and enforcement by our current staff. In addition, state revenues from Casinos could be affected with an increase in machines across the state, potentially resulting in increased competition for Maryland’s six Casinos.

Thank you for your consideration of this information, as the Agency takes no position on this proposed bill. If you should have any questions or need more information about this subject, please do not hesitate to contact Sean Ford, MLGCA’s Director of Legislation and Policy Development, at 410-230-8988 or sean.ford@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John A. Martin". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John A. Martin
Director

cc: All Committee Members
Delegate Ebersole