

# **2024Testimony-BCoreyBradley-SenateBill1013.pdf**

Uploaded by: Brandon Bradley

Position: FAV

February 28, 2024

Senate Bill 1013

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

I am here today to represent the nearly 20K Elks that make up the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association. As big of an honor as that is, I am also here to represent myself as an active member of my community, husband and a father.

My name is Brandon Corey Bradley and I am a resident of Anne Arundel County and a lifelong Marylander. I became an Elk over a decade ago to serve my community, become a model Marylander and better myself as an American.

Elks across the State of Maryland have helped shaped communities by donating hours helping those less fortunate, volunteering at veteran's hospitals, supporting first responders and mentoring our youth to be their best. Even during the height of the pandemic, Elks Lodges were still able to contribute more than \$6.4 million dollars back into the community through volunteer hours, miles driven, cash and non-cash donations. This year I am pleased to say at the end of 2023, we have given back \$9.2 million dollars to our communities. Everyone always says we should strive to do better and I can stand before this committee and say as Elks we are committed to our communities and that means doing everything in our power to make our communities better.

Senate Bill 1013 will allow Elks Lodges and other fraternal organizations on the Western shore to continue to provide to their community through Instant Ticket Lottery Machines (ITLM) located in our lodges and facilities. These machines will also give the state funds to support programs that are important to organizations like the Elks. These programs include but are not limited to supporting single parent veterans, placing female veterans in a safe home and assisting veterans who have become victims of domestic abuse.

Supporting Senate Bill 1013 will allow Lodges on the Western Shore of Maryland to continue the work they are already doing. It will only increase the charity that is currently being spread throughout communities in Maryland. Charity which comes in the form of helping a child with a

disability gain access to a much needed ramp, providing iPads to Green Street Veterans Hospital or simply saying thank you to our first responders over a home cooked meal. I and the 20K Elks I represent would appreciate your support and a favorable vote.

# **Elks Recap 02202024.pdf**

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**The Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association Supports:**

HB 1159 / SB 1013

State Lottery – Instant Ticket Lottery Machines – Veterans’ and Fraternal Organizations

**What is the the Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association:**

The Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association is a non-profit organization of volunteers from 37 Elks Lodges dedicated to serving our communities and improving the quality of life.

**Who are the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks (B.P.O.E.)?**

A fraternal order that started over 150 years ago and currently has hundreds of thousands of members in nearly 2000 Lodges across the United States. The Lodges support their communities through inspiring youth, supporting veterans and scholarships.

**What is the Purpose of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks?**

Our fraternal order, founded to promote the practice the four cardinal virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members; to quicken the spirit of American Patriotism and cultivate good fellowship.

**What do the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks do?**

The orders donates more than \$381-million dollars every year for benevolent, educational and patriotic community-minded programs in such fields as:

- Special needs children
- Elks National Foundation scholarships
- Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts
- Youth athletic programs ( such as Hoop shoot and Soccer shoot)
- Veterans programs (such as Army of Hope and Wounded Warriors)
- Physical and occupational therapy programs
- Patriotic programs
- State major projects (such as Elks Camp Barrett located in 1001 Chesterfield Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401)
- Blood drives and drug awareness programs
- Senior Citizens programs





**The Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association**

**Charity Report Summary: Survey of Volunteer, Charitable and Community Service Programs**

**Involvement (Volunteers and Hours)**

Elks who volunteered	41,454
Non-Elks who volunteered	29,364
Total Number of Workers	70,818
Elk hours donated	158,399
Non-Elk/Helper hours donated	37,072
Total Hours Volunteered	195,471
<b>Valued at: \$5,854,356.45</b>	

**Dedication (Miles Traveled)**

Elks miles traveled	528,069
Non-Elk miles traveled	193,719
Total Miles Traveled	721,788
<b>Valued at: \$425,854.92</b>	

**Contributions (Cash and Non-Cash Contributions)**

Cash contributions	\$1,800,788
Non-cash contributions	\$1,147,115
<b>Valued at: \$2,947,903</b>	

**Total Contributions:**

**\$9,228,114**





**The Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association**

**Lodges by District**

**North Central**

Annapolis, Lodge #622  
Bowie, Lodge #2309  
Broadneck, Lodge #2608  
Essex, Lodge #1866  
Glen Burnie, Lodge #2266  
Laurel, Lodge #2283  
Severna Park, Lodge #2482  
Towson, Lodge #469

**Northeast District**

Abingdon, Lodge #2354  
Chestertown, Lodge #2474  
Dover, Lodge #1903  
Havre de Grace, Lodge #1564  
Milford, Lodge #2401  
Newark, Lodge #2281  
Wilmington, Lodge #307

**Southeast District**

Cambridge, Lodge #1272  
Cape Henlopen, Lodge #2540  
Crisfield, Lodge #1622  
Easton, Lodge #1622  
Ken Island, Lodge #2576  
Ocean City, Lodge #2645  
Pokomoke City, Lodge #1624  
Salisbury, Lodge #817  
Seaford, Lodge #2458  
Shelbyville Lodge #2173

**Southwest District**

Calvert, Lodge #2620  
Camp Springs, Lodge 2332  
Deale, Lodge #2528  
Prince George's County, Lodge #1778  
St. Mary's County, Lodge 2092  
Waldorf, Lodge #2421  
Washington-Rockville, Lodge #15

**West District**

Calvert, Lodge #2620  
Frostburg, Lodge #470  
Hagerstown, Lodge #378  
Oakland, Lodge #2481  
Westminster, Lodge #2277



# **2024 Casino Testimony on ITLMs SB1013 2024(6250682**

Uploaded by: Marta Harting

Position: UNF



To: Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

Date: February 27, 2024

Re: Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 1013 (State Lottery – Instant Ticket Lottery Machines – Veterans’ and Fraternal Organizations)

Maryland’s six casinos oppose SB1013, which would increase the availability of "slot-like" machines in Maryland.

**Maryland's casinos drive significant State revenues and other benefits to the State’s economy.**

- Maryland has the 19<sup>th</sup> largest population in the country but generates the 4<sup>th</sup> highest gaming tax revenues.
- Maryland's six commercial casinos support 15,000+ direct jobs, generate \$3.0 billion in economic impact; and create \$962.2 million in tax impacts.<sup>1</sup>
- Maryland's 41% Blended Tax Rate is the second highest tax rate in the country.
- Maryland has one of the highest gaming tax revenues as a percentage of corporate income tax collected in the country, at 52%. In other words, the 6 casinos in Maryland pay over half as much tax annually as **the thousands of other corporations doing business in the state each year.** (\$848 million Gaming Tax v \$1.6 billion corporate income tax.<sup>2</sup>)
- Maryland casinos spent over \$3 billion in initial construction.
- **Maryland casinos have provided \$5.2 billion to the Maryland Education Trust Fund and over \$6.5 billion in overall taxes since the program began.**

**Increasing the availability of slot-like machines will negatively impact State gaming revenues to fund public K-12 education and other important programs.**

- Games like instant ticket lottery machines (ITLM), electronic tip jars, "skill-based" games, and instant bingo machines generally mirror slot machine play and therefore compete with slot machine play and casinos generally.
- Maryland has greatly benefitted from its casino gaming program, which, in FY2023 alone, provided the Education Trust Fund \$623 million.
- In FY2023, Maryland's gaming revenue also provided:
  - \$109m in local aid
  - \$92m to Maryland's horse racing industry
  - \$20m to the Maryland's Small, Minority and Women-owned Business Fund
  - \$4.5m to the Responsible Gaming Fund

<sup>1</sup> Source: American Gaming Association

<sup>2</sup> Source: January, 2023 DLS Fiscal Briefing

- The partnership between Maryland and its VLT licensees is one of the most successful partnerships to fund public education in the nation. It is critical that the Maryland General Assembly protect the funding streams so important to State programs.
- By increasing the availability of slot machine-like machines that compete with slot machines, these bills are contrary to the State's interest in maximizing casino tax revenue to fund public education and the other programs funded by casino taxes.

**These bills undercut responsible gaming initiatives and lack essential regulatory oversight to protect the public.**

- Maryland's Voluntary Exclusion Program (VEP) is a core component of the State's responsible gaming efforts, and helps to ensure that at-risk people are protected.
- The state created the VEP in 2011 to assist people who have a gambling problem and choose to exclude themselves from Maryland casinos, lottery, and/or certain bingo halls in Anne Arundel and Calvert Counties.
- The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency staffs each casino in Maryland at all times that the casino floor is open to enroll people into the VEP.
- Maryland's casinos are responsible for ensuring that individuals who are on the VEP list do not have access to gaming on their properties.
- As a result of these requirements and other regulation by the MLGCA, Maryland's casinos are arguably the most regulated businesses in Maryland.
- The proposed bills do not include responsible gaming protections for slot-like games.
- Without proven responsible gaming measures in place, excluded patrons can simply avoid Maryland's casinos and frequent understaffed bingo halls, fraternal organizations, and bars and restaurants who might have access to these machines.
- The operators of these slots-like machines are also not subject to regulatory oversight and control to protect the public that is exercised by the MLGCA over casinos.

**As the State's partners in funding the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and in ensuring that effective responsible gaming measures are in place, we respectfully request the Budget and Taxation Committee to give an unfavorable report to SB1013.**