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Legislative District 28  
Charles County

Ways and Means Committee

Subcommittees

Local Revenues

Chair, Racing and Gaming

Chair, Southern Maryland  
House Delegation



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony in Support**  
**HB 1218 - State Lottery Tickets - Internet Sales - Repeal Prohibition and**  
**New Distribution of State Lottery Fund**  
**February 29, 2025**

Good afternoon, Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the Ways and Means Committee. For the record, I am Delegate Edith Patterson, sponsor of HB 1218 - State Lottery Tickets - Internet Sale - Repeal Prohibition and New Distribution of State Lottery Fund.

HB 1218 requests to repeal the prohibition and allow the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency to create a system or program that individuals can purchase a state lottery ticket through an electronic device that connects to the internet; modify the distribution of lottery proceeds to include a certain amount for the Problem Gambling Fund; and generally relating to the sale of State lottery tickets.

Consumer behavior has changed dramatically since 2017 when the prohibition was added. People expect a seamless digital to in-store shopping experience and the State's traditional lottery approach is not meeting this need. Therefore, we are missing an opportunity to capture new lottery players.

iLottery does not have a negative impact on retail sales. To date, 12 jurisdictions have enacted iLottery programs and all these states have seen an increase in traditional lottery sales at brick-and-mortar retailers. iLottery seeks to capture a "non-lottery" playing audience. Traditional marketing has failed, and will continue to fail, non-lottery players. Additionally, an iLottery program would appeal to people who do not go to traditional retail outlets – they do most of their shopping through online platforms, including shopping for groceries and alcohol. There are 140 lottery retailers in my district, and I would not sponsor legislation if I believed it would harm their bottom line. Early adopters of iLottery, such as Michigan and Pennsylvania, demonstrate that iLottery compliments brick-and-mortar sales through retailer collaboration and promotional offers. Pennsylvania recorded over a 7% increase in brick-and-mortar sales their first full year of iLottery. iLottery is a way to reach players through multiple retail channels and can exist simultaneously with other types of gaming

I respectfully urge you to vote favorably for HB 1218.

Thank you for your consideration,

Edith J. Patterson