

Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency



Wes Moore, Governor • John Martin, Director

Montgomery Park Business Center
1800 Washington Blvd., Ste. 330
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Tel: 410-230-8800
TTY users use Maryland Relay
www.mdlottery.com

DATE: April 1, 2026

BILL NO: House Bill 289

BILL TITLE: Video Lottery Facility Payouts - Intercepts for Restitution Payments, Child Support Payments, and Debts Owed to the State

COMMITTEE: Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

POSITION: FAVORABLE

House Bill 289, *Video Lottery Facility Payouts - Intercepts for Restitution Payments, Child Support Payments, and Debts Owed to the State*, would authorize the Central Collection Unit (“CCU”) to certify information about debts owed to the State to a video lottery operator for the purposes of enforcing a requirement to intercept certain prize payouts; requiring a video lottery operator to provide certain notice to a debtor that wins a prize to be paid by the licensee and withhold all or part of the prize. The video lottery operators (“casinos”) already intercept prize winnings for CCU and the Child Support Administration from debtors (players) for criminal restitution and child support.

Findings from an audit by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) determined that State casinos did not intercept prize money from Video Lottery Facilities for amounts due to the State because State law only provides for such recoveries from lottery winnings, not casino winnings. OLA recommended the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (“Agency”) pursue legislation to enable casinos to intercept amounts due to the State as their analysis of three casinos determined \$9.2 million in prize money was awarded to patrons that could have been withheld for other state debts. The bill would add language to State Finance and Procurement, § 3-304, Central Collection Unit authorizing these actions.

For the reasons stated above, the Agency requests a FAVORABLE report on House Bill 289.