

HOUSE BILL 1227

C7, J1

(7lr3466)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Ways and Means/Budget and Taxation* —

Introduced by **Delegates Mosby, Jones, Kaiser, McIntosh, Davis, Pena–Melnyk, Ali, Barron, Branch, Glenn, C. Howard, Korman, R. Lewis, McMillan, Morales, Oaks, Platt, Queen, Rosenberg, Sample–Hughes, Sanchez, Tarlau, and M. Washington**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **The Problem Gambling Funding and Treatment Act of 2017**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~increasing a certain annual fee paid by video lottery operation licensees~~
4 ~~for certain video lottery terminals to the Problem Gambling Fund; increasing the~~
5 ~~maximum amount of a certain annual fee that may be paid by a video lottery~~
6 ~~operation licensee for certain table games to the Fund; specifying that the primary~~
7 purpose of the *Problem Gambling* Fund is to provide money for certain problem
8 gambling treatment and prevention programs; requiring the Department of Health
9 and Mental Hygiene to use certain funds to establish a certain outreach program for
10 certain individuals; providing that certain programs developed and implemented by
11 the Department be free or reduced cost programs; requiring a certain organization
12 to make a certain report to the General Assembly by a certain date; *stating the intent*

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



~~of the General Assembly; and generally relating to fees assessed on video lottery terminals and table games and the Problem Gambling Fund.~~

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – State Government
Section 9–1A–33
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – State Government

9–1A–33.

(a) (1) The Commission shall:

(i) establish an annual fee of ~~[\$425]~~ **\$500**, to be paid by each video lottery operation licensee, for each video lottery terminal operated by the licensee during the year, based on the maximum number of terminal positions in use during the year; and

(ii) distribute the fees collected under item (i) of this paragraph to the Problem Gambling Fund established in subsection (b) of this section.

(2) The Commission may establish an annual fee of up to ~~[\$500]~~ **\$700** for each table game to be paid by each video lottery operation licensee and distributed to the Problem Gambling Fund under subsection (b) of this section in order to ensure sufficient funds are available to provide requested services.

(b) (1) **(I)** There is a Problem Gambling Fund in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

(II) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS PRIMARILY TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING TREATMENT AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING:

- 1. INPATIENT AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES;**
- 2. OUTPATIENT SERVICES;**
- 3. INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT SERVICES;**
- 4. CONTINUING CARE SERVICES;**
- 5. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES;**

1 **6. SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE; AND**

2 **7. OTHER PREVENTIVE OR REHABILITATIVE SERVICES**
3 **OR TREATMENT.**

4 (2) The Problem Gambling Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not
5 subject to § 7-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

6 (3) Money in the Problem Gambling Fund shall be invested and reinvested
7 by the Treasurer, and interest and earnings shall accrue to the Fund.

8 (4) Except as provided in paragraph (5) of this subsection, expenditures
9 from the Problem Gambling Fund shall be made only by the Department of Health and
10 Mental Hygiene to:

11 (i) establish a 24-hour hotline for compulsive and problem gamblers
12 and to provide counseling and other support services for compulsive and problem gamblers;
13 [and]

14 (ii) **ESTABLISH AN OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR COMPULSIVE AND**
15 **PROBLEM GAMBLERS, INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS WHO REQUESTED PLACEMENT ON**
16 **THE VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION LIST ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER §**
17 **9-1A-24 OF THIS SUBTITLE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATING IN PROBLEM**
18 **GAMBLING TREATMENT AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS; AND**

19 (III) develop and implement **FREE OR REDUCED COST** problem
20 gambling treatment and prevention programs, including the programs established under
21 Title 19, Subtitle 8 of the Health – General Article.

22 (5) After satisfying the requirements of paragraph (4) of this subsection,
23 any unspent funds in the Problem Gambling Fund may be expended by the Department of
24 Health and Mental Hygiene on drug and other addiction treatment services.

25 (6) Expenditures from the Problem Gambling Fund shall be made in
26 accordance with an appropriation approved by the General Assembly in the annual State
27 budget or by the budget amendment procedure provided for in § 7-209 of the State Finance
28 and Procurement Article.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Center of
30 Excellence on Problem Gambling, on or before December 31, 2017, shall report to the
31 General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the
32 geographic breakdown by county of the Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem
33 Gambling's public awareness and outreach efforts during fiscal year 2017.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General
2 Assembly that, if the expanded purpose of the Problem Gambling Fund as enacted by this
3 Act results in the need for additional funds, the General Assembly will consider legislation
4 to increase the fees established under § 9-1A-33(a) of the State Government Article during
5 the 2018 legislative session.

6 SECTION ~~3~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 July 1, 2017.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.