HOUSE BILL 195

C7

6lr1641

(PRE–FILED)

By: **Delegate Queen**
Requested: November 1, 2025
Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1   AN ACT concerning

2   **State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission – Authority to Conduct Studies**
3   **on the Use of Emerging Technology – Collaboration**

4   FOR the purpose of requiring the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to conduct
5   studies of the State lottery and gaming program that identify certain trends and
6   emerging technology to create a safe and transparent gambling environment;
7   requiring the Commission to analyze certain technology that may be used by the
8   Commission to carry out its duties in implementing certain provisions of law
9   concerning sports wagering; requiring the Commission to collaborate and partner
10   with or contract with certain institutions of higher education in the State,
11   foundations, or private entities under certain circumstances; requiring the
12   Commission to designate the Director of the State Lottery and Gaming Control
13   Agency or the Director's designee to collaborate with and participate in certain
14   studies; and generally relating to the State Lottery and Gaming Commission's
15   authority to conduct studies on the use of emerging technology.

16   BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17   Article – State Government
18   Section 9–109
19   Annotated Code of Maryland
20   (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

21   BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22   Article – State Government
23   Section 9–1E–03(a)(2)
24   Annotated Code of Maryland
25   (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

26   BY adding to
27   Article – State Government

1   Section 9–1E–03(a)(3) and (4)
2   Annotated Code of Maryland
3   (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

6   **Article – State Government**

7   9–109.

8   (a)   In addition to the specific powers granted and duties imposed by this subtitle,
9   the Commission has the powers and duties set forth in this section.

10   (b)   (1)   **[**The**] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE**
11 Commission shall conduct studies of the State lottery and gaming program to:

12   (i)   identify any defect in this subtitle, Subtitle 1A of this title, or the
13 regulations of the Agency that may allow abuses in the operation and administration of the
14 State lottery and gaming program or any evasion of this subtitle, Subtitle 1A of this title,
15 or the regulations;

16   (ii)   guard against the use of this subtitle, Subtitle 1A of this title,
17 and the regulations of the Agency as a means of conducting organized crime;

18   (iii)   ensure that the regulations of the Agency are proper and that
19 this subtitle, Subtitle 1A of this title, and the regulations are administered to serve the
20 purpose of this subtitle; **[**and**]**

21   (iv)   analyze the gaming industry within and outside the State to
22 determine whether Maryland's gaming program is competitive and maximizing revenues
23 for the State**; AND**

24   **(V)   IDENTIFY   THE   LATEST   TRENDS   AND   EMERGING**
25 **TECHNOLOGY TO CREATE A SAFER, MORE TRANSPARENT GAMBLING ENVIRONMENT,**
26 **INCLUDING:**

27   **1.   CYBERSECURITY TECHNOLOGY TO PROTECT GAMING**
28 **ACTIVITIES FROM SECURITY BREACHES THROUGH USE OF DATA ENCRYPTION,**
29 **MULTIFACTOR AUTHENTICATION, SECURE PAYMENT GATEWAYS, AND BLOCKCHAIN**
30 **TECHNOLOGY;**

31   **2.   THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO PROTECT**
32 **CUSTOMERS, MONITOR BEHAVIORAL PATTERNS OF CUSTOMERS TO ANALYZE**
33 **BEHAVIOR, AND PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE GAMING; AND**

1   **3.   DIGITAL IDENTITY VERIFICATION TO VERIFY THE**
2 **CUSTOMER'S AGE AND IDENTITY TO PREVENT ILLEGAL GAMING ACTIVITY AND TO**
3 **SUPPORT FACIAL RECOGNITION AND BIOMETRICS TO REDUCE THE RISK OF**
4 **IDENTITY FRAUD.**

5   (2)   The Commission shall conduct studies of:

6   (i)   the operation and administration of similar laws in other states
7 or countries;

8   (ii)   federal laws that may affect the operation of the State lottery or
9 gaming activities;

10   (iii)   literature on lotteries and gaming activities, including problem
11 gambling programs; and

12   (iv)   the reaction of citizens of the State to existing and potential
13 features of the State lottery and gaming program.

14   **(C)   (1)   IF THE COMMISSION DOES NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES OR**
15 **EXPERTISE TO CONDUCT A STUDY UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE**
16 **COMMISSION SHALL:**

17   **(I)   COLLABORATE AND PARTNER WITH AN INSTITUTION OF**
18 **HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE, A FOUNDATION, OR A PRIVATE ENTITY TO STUDY**
19 **AND ANALYZE BEST PRACTICES IN THE FIELDS DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)**
20 **OF THIS SECTION; OR**

21   **(II)   CONTRACT WITH AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION**
22 **IN THE STATE, A FOUNDATION, OR A PRIVATE ENTITY TO CONDUCT THE STUDY.**

23   **(2)   THE COMMISSION SHALL REQUIRE THE DIRECTOR OR THE**
24 **DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE TO COMMUNICATE AND FULLY PARTICIPATE IN A STUDY**
25 **CONDUCTED BY AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, A FOUNDATION, OR A**
26 **PRIVATE ENTITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

27   **[**(c)**] (D)**   (1)   The Commission shall submit to the Governor and, subject to §
28 2–1257 of this article, to the General Assembly the reports required under this subsection.

29   (2)   The Commission shall submit monthly a report that states the total
30 State lottery and gaming revenues and the total prize disbursements and other expenses
31 for the preceding month.

1   (3)   The Commission shall submit annually a report that states the total
2   State lottery and gaming revenues and the total prize disbursements and other expenses
3   for the preceding year.

4   (4)   The Commission shall submit a report whenever a matter requires an
5   immediate change in a State law to:

6   (i)   prevent an abuse or evasion of this subtitle, Subtitle 1A of this
7   title, or a regulation of the Agency; or

8   (ii)   rectify an undesirable condition in the operation or
9   administration of the State lottery and gaming program.

10 9–1E–03.

11   (a)   (2)   The Commission shall consider the use of technology, remote
12 surveillance, and other similar measures to carry out its duties under this subsection and
13 § 9–1E–04 of this subtitle.

14   **(3)   IF THE COMMISSION DOES NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES OR**
15 **EXPERTISE TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**
16 **SUBSECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

17   **(I)   COLLABORATE WITH AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER**
18 **EDUCATION IN THE STATE, A FOUNDATION, OR A PRIVATE ENTITY TO ANALYZE THE**
19 **BEST PRACTICES IN USING TECHNOLOGY; OR**

20   **(II)   CONTRACT WITH AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION**
21 **IN THE STATE, A FOUNDATION, OR A PRIVATE ENTITY TO PERFORM THE ANALYSIS.**

22   **(4)   THE COMMISSION SHALL REQUIRE THE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE**
23 **LOTTERY AND GAMING CONTROL AGENCY OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE TO**
24 **COMMUNICATE AND FULLY PARTICIPATE IN A STUDY CONDUCTED BY AN**
25 **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, A FOUNDATION, OR A PRIVATE ENTITY IN**
26 **ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

27   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2026.