

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5282

February Session, 2024



AN ACT ALLOWING HARDSHIP WAIVERS OF INTEREST DUE FROM A DELINQUENT LOTTERY SALES AGENT AND CONCERNING LICENSING OF CONNECTICUT LOTTERY CORPORATION EMPLOYEES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 12-569 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):
- 3 (a) For purposes of this section, "delinquency assessment" means the
- 4 principal amount due but unremitted as of the stated past settlement
- 5 date, the penalty imposed by the commissioner and the interest due and
- 6 <u>outstanding.</u>
- 7 [(a)] (b) (1) If the president of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation
- 8 determines that any lottery sales agent has breached such agent's
- 9 fiduciary responsibility to the corporation in that the account of such
- 10 lottery sales agent with respect to moneys received from the sale of
- 11 lottery tickets has become delinquent [in accordance with regulations
- 12 adopted under section 12-568a] by failure to remit all moneys due and
- owing upon the settlement date established by the Connecticut Lottery
- 14 Corporation, the president shall notify the commissioner of the breach
- of fiduciary duty. [and the] The commissioner shall impose (A) a
- 16 [delinquency assessment] penalty upon such delinquent account equal
- 17 to ten per cent of the principal amount due but unremitted or ten dollars,
- 18 whichever amount is greater, [plus] which shall be effective upon

- delivery of notice to the agent, and (B) simple interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent of such <u>principal</u> amount <u>due but unremitted</u> for each month or fraction of a month from the date such <u>principal</u> amount is due to the date of payment.
 - (2) A lottery sales agent whose account was delinquent prior to July 1, 2022, and whose delinquency assessment was subject to compounding interest on June 30, 2022, may apply to the commissioner on or after July 1, 2022, for a hardship waiver to reduce the amount of interest delinquent, outstanding and payable to an amount based on simple interest.
- 29 (3) A lottery sales agent whose account is delinquent on or after July 30 1, 2024, may file an application with the president of the Connecticut 31 Lottery Corporation for a hardship waiver to reduce the amount of 32 interest delinquent, outstanding and payable. Each lottery sales agent 33 applying for a hardship waiver shall pay, with such application, the 34 principal amount due but unremitted as of the stated past settlement 35 date and the penalty imposed in accordance with subdivision (1) of this 36 subsection, provided (A) if the president determines that an undue 37 hardship exists which prevents such agent from paying the principal 38 amount due but unremitted as of the stated past settlement date and the 39 penalty at the time of application for such hardship waiver, the president may enter into a payment schedule permitting an agent to pay 40 41 the principal amount due but unremitted and the penalty over a period 42 of time not to exceed one year from the date the hardship waiver is provisionally granted by the president, and (B) an agent who fails to pay 43 44 the principal amount due but unremitted and the penalty within the 45 period described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall be 46 ineligible for a hardship waiver pursuant to this subdivision. If the 47 president determines that it would be beneficial to the state to do so, the 48 president may reduce the amount of any interest delinquent, 49 outstanding and payable by such agent. The president shall establish 50 procedures to be published and maintained on the Internet web site of 51 the Connecticut Lottery Corporation specifying requirements for

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- hardship waiver applications and availability of payment plans. In no event shall a hardship waiver result in a refund or credit of any amount of money, penalty or interest previously paid by such agent.
 - [(3)] (4) Subject to the provisions of section 12-3a, the commissioner may waive all or part of the penalties provided under this subsection when it is proven to the commissioner's satisfaction that the failure to pay such moneys to the state within the time allowed was due to reasonable cause and was not intentional or due to neglect.
 - [(4)] (5) Any such delinquent lottery sales agent shall be notified of such delinquency assessment and shall be afforded an opportunity to contest the validity and amount of such assessment before the commissioner who may conduct such hearing. Upon request of the president of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, the commissioner may prepare and sign a warrant directed to any state marshal, constable or any collection agent employed by the Connecticut Lottery Corporation for distraint upon any property of such delinquent lottery sales agent within the state, whether personal or real property. An itemized bill shall be attached to the warrant certified by the commissioner as a true statement of the amount due from such lottery sales agent. Such warrant shall have the same force and effect as an execution issued in accordance with chapter 906. Such warrant shall be levied on any real, personal, tangible or intangible property of such agent and sale made pursuant to such warrant in the same manner and with the same force and effect as a levy and sale pursuant to an execution.
 - [(b)] (c) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to carry out the purposes of this section.
- Sec. 2. Section 12-815a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2025*):
- 81 (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall issue vendor, 82 affiliate and occupational licenses in accordance with the provisions of

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- (b) No person or business organization awarded a primary contract by the Connecticut Lottery Corporation to provide facilities, components, goods or services that are necessary for and directly related to the secure operation of the activities of said corporation shall do so unless such person or business organization is issued a vendor license by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. For the purposes of this subsection, "primary contract" means a contract to provide facilities, components, goods or services to said corporation by a person or business organization (1) that provides any lottery game or any online wagering system related facilities, components, goods or services and that receives or, in the exercise of reasonable business judgment, can be expected to receive more than seventy-five thousand dollars or twentyfive per cent of its gross annual sales from said corporation, or (2) that has access to the facilities of said corporation and provides services in such facilities without supervision by said corporation. Each applicant for a vendor license shall pay a nonrefundable application fee of two hundred fifty dollars.
- (c) No person or business organization, other than a shareholder in a publicly traded corporation, may be a subcontractor for the provision of facilities, components, goods or services that are necessary for and directly related to the secure operation of the activities of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, or may exercise control in or over a vendor licensee unless such person or business organization is licensed as an affiliate licensee by the commissioner. Each applicant for an affiliate license shall pay a nonrefundable application fee of two hundred fifty dollars.
- (d) (1) Each employee of a vendor or affiliate licensee who has access to the facilities of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation and provides services in such facilities without supervision by said corporation or performs duties directly related to the activities of said corporation shall obtain an occupational license.

- 115 (2) Each officer, director, partner, trustee or owner of a business 116 organization licensed as a vendor or affiliate licensee and any 117 shareholder, executive, agent or other person connected with any 118 vendor or affiliate licensee who, in the judgment of the commissioner, 119 will exercise control in or over any such licensee shall obtain an 120 occupational license.
 - (3) Each employee of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation shall obtain an occupational license.

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- (e) The commissioner shall issue occupational licenses in the following classes: (1) Class I for persons specified in subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section; (2) Class II for persons specified in subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section; (3) Class III for persons specified in subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of this section who, in the judgment of the commissioner, will not exercise authority over or direct the management and policies of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation; and (4) Class IV for persons specified in subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of this section who, in the judgment of the commissioner, will exercise authority over or direct the management and policies of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation. Each applicant for a Class I or III occupational license shall pay a nonrefundable application fee of twenty dollars. Each applicant for a Class II or IV occupational license shall pay a nonrefundable application fee of one hundred dollars. The nonrefundable application fee shall accompany the application for each such occupational license. Applicants for such licenses shall apply in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner.
- (f) Each applicant for a Class III or Class IV occupational license, and each employee of the corporation holding such a license on January 1, 2025, shall disclose, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, the forms of gaming under chapter 229a and chapter 229b that such applicant or such licensed employee will work on as an employee of the corporation. For an applicant approved for a Class III or Class IV occupational license, or for an employee of the corporation who currently holds such a license, the commissioner may issue a

separate endorsement authorizing such licensee to engage in the corporation's operation of Internet games or retail sports wagering, as such terms are defined under section 12-850, under chapter 229b, and such employee shall not be required to apply for a license pursuant to section 12-858, as amended by this act, or section 12-859, as amended by this act, in order to engage in such operation. All Class III or Class IV occupational licensees shall report to the department any criminal conviction within two business days after order or judgment of such conviction is rendered. The corporation and all Class III or Class IV occupational licensees shall immediately report to the department any change in the scope of employment of such licensee employed by the corporation that would require the employee to obtain an additional endorsement pursuant to this subsection.

[(f)] (g) In determining whether to grant a vendor, affiliate or occupational license to any such person or business organization, the commissioner may require an applicant to provide information as to such applicant's: (1) Financial standing and credit; (2) moral character; (3) criminal record, if any; (4) previous employment; (5) corporate, partnership or association affiliations; (6) ownership of personal assets; and (7) such other information as the commissioner deems pertinent to the issuance of such license, provided the submission of such other information will assure the integrity of the state lottery. The commissioner shall require each applicant for a vendor, affiliate or occupational license to submit to state and national criminal history records checks and may require each such applicant to submit to an international criminal history records check before such license is issued. The state and national criminal history records checks required pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The commissioner shall issue a vendor, affiliate or occupational license, as the case may be, to each applicant who satisfies the requirements of this subsection and who is deemed qualified by the commissioner. The commissioner may reject for good cause an application for a vendor, affiliate or occupational license.

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- [(g)] (h) Each vendor, affiliate or Class I or II occupational license shall be effective for not more than one year from the date of issuance. Each Class III or IV occupational license shall remain in effect throughout the term of employment of any such employee holding such a license. The commissioner may require each employee issued a Class IV occupational license to submit information as to such employee's financial standing and credit annually. Initial application for and renewal of any such license shall be in such form and manner as the commissioner shall prescribe.
- [(h)] (i) (1) The commissioner may suspend or revoke for good cause a vendor, affiliate or occupational license after a hearing held before the commissioner in accordance with chapter 54. The commissioner may order summary suspension of any such license in accordance with subsection (c) of section 4-182.
- (2) Any such applicant aggrieved by the action of the commissioner concerning an application for a license, or any person or business organization whose license is suspended or revoked, may appeal pursuant to section 4-183.
- (3) The commissioner may impose a civil penalty on any licensee for a violation of any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under section 12-568a in an amount not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars after a hearing held in accordance with chapter 54.
- [(i)] (j) The commissioner may require that the books and records of any vendor or affiliate licensee be maintained in any manner which the commissioner may deem best, and that any financial or other statements based on such books and records be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in such form as the commissioner shall prescribe. The commissioner or a designee may visit, investigate and place expert accountants and such other persons as deemed necessary in the offices or places of business of any such licensee for the purpose of satisfying himself or herself that such licensee is in compliance with the regulations of the department.

- [(j)] (k) For the purposes of this section, (1) "business organization" means a partnership, incorporated or unincorporated association, firm, corporation, trust or other form of business or legal entity; (2) "control" means the power to exercise authority over or direct the management and policies of a licensee; and (3) "person" means any individual.
- [(k)] (<u>l</u>) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt such regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as are necessary to implement the provisions of this section.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 12-858 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January* 1, 2025):
 - (a) An occupational employee, other than a key employee, of a master wagering licensee or a licensed online gaming operator, online gaming service provider or sports wagering retailer who will be directly or substantially involved in the operation of Internet games or retail sports wagering in a manner impacting the integrity of such gaming or wagering, data security, patron interaction, game or equipment testing or any other aspect of the gaming activity of a licensee that impacts the integrity of gaming, shall obtain an occupational employee license prior to commencing such employment. An employee of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation holding an active Class III or Class IV license with an endorsement to operate Internet games or retail sports wagering issued pursuant to subsection (f) of section 12-815a, as amended by this act, shall not be required to obtain an occupational license pursuant to this section. An occupational employee shall be deemed to be directly or substantially involved in the operation of Internet games or retail sports wagering in a manner impacting the integrity of such gaming or wagering if such employee: (1) Has the capability of affecting the outcome of a wager through deployment of code to production for any critical component of an electronic wagering platform; (2) (A) can deploy code to production, and (B) directly supervises individuals who have the capability of affecting the outcome of Internet games through deployment of code to production for other than read-only access or the

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equivalent access to any critical component of an electronic wagering platform; or (3) directly manages gaming operations or directly supervises an individual who directly manages gaming operations. For purposes of this subsection, a "critical component" means a component of an electronic wagering platform that records, stores, processes, shares, transmits or receives sensitive information, such as validation numbers and personal identification numbers, or which stores the results or the current state of a participant's wager for an Internet game.

Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 12-859 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1*, 2025):

(b) A key employee of a master wagering licensee or licensed online gaming operator, online gaming service provider or sports wagering retailer shall obtain a key employee license from the department pursuant to this section. An employee of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation holding an active Class III or Class IV license with an endorsement to operate Internet games or retail sports wagering issued pursuant to subsection (f) of section 12-815a, as amended by this act, shall not be required to obtain a key employee license pursuant to this section. The commissioner may establish, through regulations adopted pursuant to section 12-865, criteria to exercise discretion to determine that an individual who is a key employee is not required to be licensed as a key employee in order to protect the integrity of gaming.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2024	12-569
Sec. 2	January 1, 2025	12-815a
Sec. 3	January 1, 2025	12-858(a)
Sec. 4	January 1, 2025	12-859(b)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2(f), the first sentence was rewritten for clarity.

PS Joint Favorable Subst.