

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 971

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 3738



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by: (PS)

AN ACT REVISING VARIOUS GAMING STATUTES.

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

- 1 Section 1. Section 12-850 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- For the purposes of this section, [and] sections 12-851 to 12-871,
- 4 inclusive, and section 2 of this act:
- 5 (1) "Business entity" means any partnership, limited liability
- 6 company, society, association, joint stock company, corporation, estate,
- 7 receiver, trustee, assignee, referee or any other legal entity and any other
- 8 person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, whether
- 9 appointed by a court or otherwise, and any combination thereof;
- 10 (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer
- 11 Protection or the commissioner's designee;
- 12 (3) "Connecticut intercollegiate team" means any team associated
- with an intercollegiate program of a university or college of the state
- 14 system of public higher education, as described in section 10a-1, an

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- 15 independent institution of higher education, as defined in section 10a-
- 16 173, or a for-profit college or university physically located in the state
- 17 that offers in-person classes within the state;
- 18 (4) "Consumables" means nondurable items, including, but not
- 19 limited to, dice, playing cards and roulette balls used in live online
- 20 casino gaming;
- 21 "Department" means the Department of Consumer [(4)] (5)
- 22 Protection;
- 23 [(5)] (6) "Electronic wagering platform" means the combination of
- 24 hardware, software and data networks used to manage, administer,
- 25 offer or control Internet games or retail sports wagering at a facility in
- 26 this state;
- 27 [(6)] (7) "E-bingo machine" means an electronic device categorized as
- 28 a class II machine under the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, P.L.
- 29 100-497, 25 USC 2701 et seq. used to play bingo that is confined to a
- 30 game cabinet and is substantially similar in appearance and play to a
- 31 class III slot machine. "E-bingo machine" does not include any other
- 32 electronic device, aid, instrument, tool or other technological aid used
- 33 in the play of any in-person class II bingo game;
- 34 [(7)] (8) "Entry fee" means the amount of cash or cash equivalent that
- 35 is required to be paid by an individual to a master wagering licensee in
- 36 order for such individual to participate in a fantasy contest;
- 37 [(8)] (9) "E-sports" means electronic sports and competitive video
- 38 games played as a game of skill;
- 39 [(9)] (10) "Fantasy contest" means any fantasy or simulated game or
- 40 contest with an entry fee, conducted over the Internet, including
- 41 through an Internet web site or a mobile device, in which: (A) The value
- 42 of all prizes and awards offered to a winning fantasy contest player is
- 43 established and made known to the players in advance of the game or
- 44 contest; (B) all winning outcomes reflect the knowledge and skill of the

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include lottery games;

- (11) "Handling consumables" means physical contact with, or supervisory oversight over the acceptance, inventory, storage or destruction of, consumables, as well as being responsible for card inspection, counting and shuffling;
- [(10)] (12) "Internet games" means (A) online casino gaming; (B) online sports wagering; (C) fantasy contests; (D) keno through the Internet, an online service or a mobile application; and (E) the sale of tickets for lottery draw games through the Internet, an online service or a mobile application;
- [(11)] (13) "Keno" has the same meaning as provided in section 12-801;

[(12)] (14) "Key employee" means an individual with the following position or an equivalent title associated with a master wagering licensee or a licensed online gaming service provider, online gaming operator or sports wagering retailer: (A) President or chief officer, who is the top ranking individual of the licensee and is responsible for all staff and the overall direction of business operations; (B) financial manager, who is the individual who reports to the president or chief officer who is generally responsible for oversight of the financial operations of the licensee, including, but not limited to, revenue generation, distributions, tax compliance and budget implementation; [or] (C) compliance manager, who is the individual that reports to the president or chief officer and who is generally responsible for ensuring the licensee complies with all laws, regulations and requirements related to the operation of the licensee; (D) chief information officer, who is the individual generally responsible for establishing policies or

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procedures on, or making management decisions related to, information systems; or (E) chief data security officer, who is the individual generally responsible for establishing policies or procedures on, or making management decisions related to, technical systems. "Key employee" includes an individual (i) who [exercises control over technical systems;] is responsible for establishing the policies or procedures on, or making management decisions related to, wagering structures or outcomes for a licensee; or (ii) who has an ownership interest, provided the interest held by such individual and such individual's spouse, parent and child, in the aggregate, is five per cent or more of the total ownership or interest rights in the licensee. [; or (iii) who, in the judgment of the commissioner, exercises sufficient control in, or over, a licensee as to require licensure.] Tribal membership in and of itself shall not constitute ownership for purposes of this subdivision;

- (15) "Live game employee" means an employee of a master wagering licensee or a licensed online gaming operator or online gaming service provider that is operating live online casino gaming who is responsible for handling consumables or for presenting live online casino gaming in a live online casino authorized under chapter 229b;
- [(13)] (16) "Lottery draw game" means any game in which one or more numbers, letters or symbols are randomly drawn at predetermined times, but not more frequently than once every four minutes, from a range of numbers, letters or symbols, and prizes are paid to players possessing winning plays, as set forth in each game's official game rules. "Lottery draw game" does not include keno, any game for which lottery draw tickets are not available through a lottery sales agent or any game that simulates online casino gaming;
 - [(14)] (17) "Mashantucket Pequot memorandum of understanding" means the memorandum of understanding entered into by and between the state and the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe on January 13, 1993, as amended from time to time;
- 108 [(15)] (18) "Mashantucket Pequot procedures" means the Final

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- 109 Mashantucket Pequot Gaming Procedures prescribed by the Secretary
- of the United States Department of the Interior pursuant to 25 USC
- 111 2710(d)(7)(B)(vii) and published in 56 Federal Register 24996 (May 31,
- 112 1991), as amended from time to time;
- [(16)] (19) "Master wagering licensee" means (A) the Mashantucket
- Pequot Tribe, or an instrumentality of or an affiliate wholly-owned by
- said tribe, if licensed to operate online sports wagering, online casino
- gaming and fantasy contests pursuant to section 12-852, as amended by
- 117 this act; (B) the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, or an
- instrumentality of or an affiliate wholly-owned by said tribe, if licensed
- to operate online sports wagering, online casino gaming and fantasy
- 120 contests pursuant to section 12-852, as amended by this act; or (C) the
- 121 Connecticut Lottery Corporation, if licensed pursuant to section 12-853
- 122 to operate retail sports wagering, online sports wagering, fantasy
- 123 contests and keno and to sell tickets for lottery draw games through the
- 124 Internet, an online service or a mobile application;
- 125 [(17)] (20) "Mohegan compact" means the Tribal-State Compact
- entered into by and between the state and the Mohegan Tribe of Indians
- of Connecticut on May 17, 1994, as amended from time to time;
- [(18)] (21) "Mohegan memorandum of understanding" means the
- memorandum of understanding entered into by and between the state
- and the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut on May 17, 1994, as
- amended from time to time;
- [(19)] (22) "Occupational employee" means an employee of a master
- wagering licensee or a licensed online gaming operator, online gaming
- 134 service provider or sports wagering retailer;
- [(20)] (23) "Off-track betting system licensee" means the person or
- business organization licensed to operate the off-track betting system
- 137 pursuant to chapter 226;
- [(21)] (24) "Online casino gaming" means (A) slots, blackjack, craps,
- 139 roulette, baccarat, poker and video poker, bingo, live dealer and other

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peer-to-peer games and any variations of such games, and (B) any games authorized by the department, conducted over the Internet, including through an Internet web site or a mobile device, through an electronic wagering platform that does not require a bettor to be

physically present at a facility;

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- [(22)] (25) "Online gaming operator" means a person or business entity that operates an electronic wagering platform and contracts directly with a master wagering licensee to offer (A) one or more Internet games on behalf of such licensee, or (B) retail sports wagering on behalf of such licensee at a facility in this state;
- [(23)] (26) "Online gaming service provider" means a person or business entity, other than an online gaming operator, that provides goods or services to, or otherwise transacts business related to Internet games or retail sports wagering with, a master wagering licensee or a licensed online gaming operator, online gaming service provider or sports wagering retailer;
 - [(24)] (27) "Online sports wagering" means sports wagering conducted over the Internet, including through an Internet web site or a mobile device, through an electronic wagering platform that does not require a sports bettor to be physically present at a facility that conducts retail sports wagering;
 - [(25)] (28) "Retail sports wagering" means in-person sports wagering requiring a sports bettor to be physically present at one of the up to fifteen facility locations of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation or a licensed sports wagering retailer in this state;
 - [(26)] (29) "Skin" means the branded or cobranded name and logo on the interface of an Internet web site or a mobile application that bettors use to access an electronic wagering platform for Internet games;
- [(27)] (30) "Sporting event" means any (A) sporting or athletic event at which two or more persons participate, individually or on a team, and may be eligible to receive compensation in excess of actual expenses for

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such participation in such sporting or athletic event; (B) sporting or athletic event sponsored by an intercollegiate athletic program of an institution of higher education or an association of such programs, except for those in which one of the participants is a Connecticut intercollegiate team and the event is not in connection with a permitted intercollegiate tournament; (C) Olympic or international sports competition event; or (D) e-sports event, except for those in which one of the participants is a Connecticut intercollegiate team and the event is not in connection with a permitted intercollegiate tournament. As used in this subdivision, "permitted intercollegiate tournament" means an intercollegiate e-sports, sporting or athletic event involving four or more intercollegiate teams that involves one or more Connecticut intercollegiate teams and the wager on the tournament is based on the outcome of all games within the tournament. "Sporting event" does not include horse racing, jai alai or greyhound racing;

[(28)] (31) "Sports governing body" means the organization that prescribes final rules and enforces codes of conduct with respect to a sporting event and participants in the sporting event;

[(29)] (32) "Sports wagering" means risking or accepting any money, credit, deposit or other thing of value for gain contingent in whole or in part, (A) by any system or method of wagering, including, but not limited to, in person or through an electronic wagering platform, and (B) based on (i) a live sporting event or a portion or portions of a live sporting event, including future or propositional events during such an event, or (ii) the individual performance statistics of an athlete or athletes in a sporting event or a combination of sporting events. "Sports wagering" does not include the payment of an entry fee to play a fantasy contest or a fee to participate in e-sports; and

[(30)] (33) "Sports wagering retailer" means a person or business entity that contracts with the Connecticut Lottery Corporation to facilitate retail sports wagering operated by said corporation through an electronic wagering platform at up to fifteen facilities in this state.

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Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) A live game employee, other than an individual who holds a key employee license, who will be directly or substantially involved in the operation of live online casino gaming in a manner impacting the integrity of such gaming, shall obtain a live game employee license prior to commencing such employment. A live game employee shall be deemed to be directly or substantially involved in the operation of live online casino gaming if such employee is: (1) Responsible for handling consumables, (2) responsible for presenting live online casino gaming, or (3) the manager of live game employees.

(b) (1) A live game employee shall apply for a live game employee license on a form and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. Such form shall require the applicant to: (A) Submit to a fingerprint-based state and national criminal history records check conducted in accordance with section 29-17a of the general statutes, which may include a financial history check if requested by the commissioner, to determine the character and fitness of the applicant for the license, (B) provide information related to other business affiliations, and (C) provide, or allow the department to obtain, such other information as the department determines is consistent with the requirements of this section in order to determine the fitness of the applicant to hold a license.

(2) In place of the criminal history records check described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the commissioner may accept from a live game employee applicant the submission of a third-party local and national criminal background check that includes a multistate and multijurisdictional criminal record locator or other similar commercial nation-wide database with validation, and other such background screening as the commissioner may require. Any such third-party criminal background check shall be conducted by a third-party consumer reporting agency or background screening company that is in compliance with the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act and accredited by the Professional Background Screening Association.

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(c) A live game employee license shall be renewed every two years. The initial license application fee for a live game employee licensee shall be two hundred dollars and the biennial renewal fee shall be one hundred dollars. The initial application fee shall be waived for a live game employee who holds an active occupational gaming license issued by the department, and a licensed live game employee shall not be required to obtain an occupational employee license. The licensee shall be responsible for the payment of any fees incurred for the criminal background check associated with the biennial renewal of the applicant's license.

- (d) The department shall transfer any licensing fee collected pursuant to subsection (c) of this section for a live game employee of the holder of a master wagering license under section 12-852 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or of an online gaming operator or an online gaming service provider that is affiliated with such a holder of a master wagering license, to the State Sports Wagering and Online Gaming Regulatory Fund established under section 12-869 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 12-852 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (c) (1) A master wagering license issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall expire (A) upon the expiration of any new compact or amendment, or renewal thereof, entered into pursuant to section 12-851, (B) if the tribe holding such license operates E-bingo machines at a casino on the tribe's reservation in this state at any time during the tenyear initial term of any amendment or new compact, as described in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 12-851, or (C) if the holder of such master wagering license ceases to be a tribe, or an instrumentality of or an affiliate wholly-owned by a tribe.
 - (2) Upon the expiration of a master wagering license pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, all other licenses associated with the

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expired master wagering license, including licenses for an online gaming operator or online service provider, and all corresponding key employee, live game employee or occupational employee licenses, shall expire without the need for any further action by the department.

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- Sec. 4. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 12-859 of the general statutes 274 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):
 - (c) (1) A key employee shall apply for a license on a form and in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. Such form [may] shall require the applicant to: (A) Submit to a fingerprint-based state and national criminal history records check conducted in accordance with section 29-17a, which may include a financial history check if requested by the commissioner, to determine the character and fitness of the applicant for the license, (B) provide information related to other business affiliations, and (C) provide or allow the department to obtain such other information as the department determines is consistent with the requirements of this section in order to determine the fitness of the applicant to hold a license.
 - (2) In place of the criminal history records check described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the commissioner may accept from an applicant for an initial key employee license the submission of a third-party local and national criminal background check that includes a multistate and multijurisdictional criminal record locator or other similar commercial nation-wide database with validation, and other such background screening as the commissioner may require. Any such third-party criminal background check shall be conducted by a third-party consumer reporting agency or background screening company that is in compliance with the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act and accredited by the Professional Background Screening Association.
 - (d) A key employee license shall be renewed annually. The initial license application fee for a key employee licensee shall be two hundred

LCO No. 3738 10 of 22 dollars and the annual renewal fee shall be two hundred dollars. The initial application fee shall be waived for a key employee who holds an active <u>live game employee or occupational [gaming] employee</u> license issued by the department. The holder of a key employee license shall not be required to obtain a live game employee or occupational employee license.

Sec. 5. Section 12-860 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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- 309 Any individual who is a key employee, a live game employee or an 310 occupational employee of a master wagering licensee described in 311 section 12-852, as amended by this act, or of an online gaming operator 312 or online gaming service provider that is an Indian tribe or an 313 instrumentality of or affiliate wholly-owned by an Indian tribe shall not 314 be permitted to raise sovereign immunity as a defense to any action to 315 enforce applicable provisions of sections 12-850 to 12-871, inclusive, as 316 amended by this act, or, as applicable, sections 12-578f, 12-586f, 12-586g, 317 12-806c, 52-553, 52-554, 53-278a or 53-278g and regulations adopted 318 under said sections against such individual in his or her capacity as a 319 key, live game or occupational employee to the extent that such action may be brought against a key, live game or occupational employee 320 321 under any provision of the general statutes or the regulations of 322 Connecticut state agencies.
- Sec. 6. Section 12-862 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) For sufficient cause found pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the commissioner may suspend or revoke a license issued pursuant to section 12-852, as amended by this act, or 12-853 or sections 12-855 to 12-859, inclusive, as amended by this act, or section 2 of this act, issue fines of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars per violation, accept an offer in compromise or refuse to grant or renew a license issued pursuant to section 12-852, as amended by this act, or 12-853 or sections 12-855 to 12-859, inclusive, as amended by this act, or

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- 333 section 2 of this act, place the holder of a license issued pursuant to
- 334 section 12-852, as amended by this act, or 12-853 or sections 12-855 to 12-
- 859, inclusive, as amended by this act, or section 2 of this act on
- probation, place conditions on such license or take other actions
- permitted by the general statutes or the regulations of Connecticut state
- 338 agencies.
- (b) [Any of the following may constitute sufficient] Sufficient cause
- for such action by the commissioner [, including, but] includes, but is
- 341 not limited to:
- 342 (1) Furnishing [of] false or fraudulent information in any license
- 343 application or failure to comply with representations made in any
- 344 application;
- 345 (2) A civil judgment against, or criminal conviction of, a licensee or
- 346 key employee of an applicant or licensee;
- 347 (3) Discipline by, or a pending disciplinary action or an unresolved
- complaint against, an owner, key employee or applicant regarding any
- 349 professional license or registration [of] <u>issued by</u> any federal, state or
- 350 local government;
- 351 (4) Denial, suspension or revocation of a license or registration, or the
- denial of a renewal of a license or registration, by any federal, state or
- 353 local government or a foreign jurisdiction;
- 354 (5) False, misleading or deceptive representations to the public or the
- 355 department;
- 356 (6) Involvement in a fraudulent or deceitful practice or transaction;
- 357 (7) Performance of negligent work that involves a substantial
- 358 monetary loss or a significant lack of sound judgment;
- 359 (8) Permitting another person to use the licensee's license;
- 360 (9) Failure to properly license key employees, live game employees

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361 <u>or</u> occupational employees; [, or failure]

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- 362 (10) Failure to notify the department of a change in key employees or owners;
- [(10)] (11) An adverse administrative decision or delinquency assessment against the licensee from the Department of Revenue Services;
- [(11)] (12) Failure to cooperate or give information to the department, local law enforcement authorities or any other enforcement agency upon any matter related to [the licensee's credential] <u>a license</u> or gaming [operations] operation; or
- 371 [(12)] (13) Failure to comply with any provision of sections 12-850 to 372 12-871, inclusive, as amended by this act, corresponding regulations or 373 any other provision of the general statutes that has an impact on the 374 integrity of gaming in this state, including, but not limited to, failure of 375 an online gaming operator who contracts with the Connecticut Lottery 376 Corporation to abide by the conditions for operation set forth in 377 subparagraph (B), (C) or (E) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 378 12-853.
 - (c) Upon refusal to issue or renew a license, the commissioner shall notify the applicant of the denial and of the applicant's right to request a hearing not later than ten days after the date of receipt of the notice of denial. If the applicant requests a hearing within such ten-day period, the commissioner shall give notice of the grounds for the commissioner's refusal and shall conduct a hearing concerning such refusal in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 concerning contested cases. If the commissioner's denial of a license is sustained after such hearing, an applicant shall not apply for a new license issued pursuant to section 12-852, as amended by this act, or 12-853 or sections 12-855 to 12-859, inclusive, as amended by this act, or section 2 of this act for a period of at least one year after the date on which such denial was sustained.

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(d) No person whose license has been revoked under this section may
apply for another license issued pursuant to section 12-852, as amended
by this act, or 12-853 or sections 12-855 to 12-859, inclusive, as amended
by this act, or section 2 of this act for a period of at least one year after
the date of such revocation.

- 397 (e) The voluntary surrender or failure to renew a license or 398 registration shall not prevent the commissioner from suspending or 399 revoking such license or registration or imposing other penalties 400 permitted by this section.
- Sec. 7. Section 12-863 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

- (a) (1) An individual may only place a sports wager through retail sports wagering or online sports wagering outside of the reservations of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut or place a wager through online casino gaming conducted outside of such reservations, if the wagering is authorized pursuant to sections 12-852 to 12-854, inclusive, as amended by this act, and the individual (A) has attained the age of twenty-one, and (B) is physically present in the state when placing the wager, and, in the case of retail sports wagering, is physically present at a retail sports wagering facility in this state.
- (2) An individual may only participate in a fantasy contest outside of the reservations of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut if the contest is authorized pursuant to section 12-852, as amended by this act, or 12-853, and the individual has attained the age of eighteen.
- (b) Any electronic wagering platform used to (1) conduct online sports wagering or online casino gaming, (2) conduct keno through the Internet web site, an online service or a mobile application of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, (3) conduct retail sports wagering, (4) sell lottery draw game tickets through the Internet web site, online service or mobile application of the Connecticut Lottery Corporation, or

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- 424 (5) conduct fantasy contests, shall be developed to:
- 425 (A) Verify that an individual (i) with an account for online sports 426 wagering, online casino gaming or retail sports wagering is twenty-one 427 years of age or older and is physically present in the state when placing 428 a wager or, in the case of retail sports wagering, is physically present at 429 a retail sports wagering facility, (ii) with an account to participate in 430 keno or to purchase lottery draw game tickets is eighteen years of age 431 or older and is physically present in the state when participating or 432 purchasing such tickets, or (iii) with an account for fantasy contests is 433 eighteen years of age or older;
- 434 (B) Provide a mechanism to prevent the unauthorized use of a 435 wagering account; and
- 436 (C) Maintain the security of wagering, participation or purchasing data and other confidential information.
- (c) A master wagering licensee and a licensed online gaming operator, online gaming service provider and sports wagering retailer shall each, where applicable based on the services provided:

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- (1) Prohibit an individual from establishing more than one account on each electronic wagering platform operated by the licensee;
- (2) Limit a person to the use of only one debit card or only one credit card for an account and only permit the use of such a card when such person is the sole account holder of such card, and place a monetary limit on the use of a credit card over a period of time, provided single-use stored value instruments purchased by cash or debit card only, including, but not limited to, a gift card or a lottery terminal printed value voucher, may be used pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of section 12-853;
- 451 (3) Allow a person to limit the amount of money that may be 452 deposited into an account, and spent per day through an account;
- 453 (4) Provide that any money in an online account belongs solely to the

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- owner of the account and may be withdrawn by the owner;
- 455 (5) Establish a voluntary self-exclusion process to allow a person to
- 456 (A) exclude himself or herself from establishing an account, (B) exclude
- 457 himself or herself from placing wagers through an account, or (C) limit
- 458 the amount such person may spend using such an account;
- (6) Provide responsible gambling and problem gambling information
- 460 to participants; and
- 461 (7) Conspicuously display on each applicable Internet web site or
- 462 mobile application:
- 463 (A) A link to a description of the provisions of this subsection;
- 464 (B) A link to responsible gambling information;
- 465 (C) A toll-free telephone number an individual may use to obtain
- 466 information about problem gambling;
- 467 (D) A link to information about the voluntary self-exclusion process
- described in subdivision (5) of this subsection;
- (E) A clear display or periodic pop-up message of the amount of time
- an individual has spent on the operator's Internet web site or mobile
- 471 application;
- 472 (F) A means to initiate a break in play to discourage excessive play;
- 473 and
- 474 (G) A clear display of the amount of money available to the
- individual in his or her account.
- (d) At least every five years, each master wagering licensee shall be
- subject to an independent review of operations conducted pursuant to
- 478 such license for responsible play, as assessed by industry standards and
- 479 performed by a third party approved by the department, which review
- shall be paid for by the licensee.

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- (f) The name and any personally identifying information of a person who is participating or who has participated in the voluntary self-exclusion process established pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (c) of this section or established by the Department of Consumer Protection in regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (4) of section 12-865 shall not be deemed public records, as defined in section 1-200, and shall not be available to the public under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, except:
- (1) The Department of Consumer Protection or Connecticut Lottery Corporation may disclose the name and personally identifying information of such person to a master wagering licensee, licensed online gaming operator, licensed online gaming service provider or licensed sports wagering retailer as necessary to achieve the purposes of the voluntary self-exclusion process established pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (c) of this section or established by the Department of Consumer Protection in regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (4) of section 12-865; and
- (2) The Connecticut Lottery Corporation may disclose the name and any relevant records of such person, other than records regarding such person's participation in the voluntary self-exclusion process, if such person claims a winning lottery ticket or if such person claims or is paid a winning wager from online sports wagering or retail sports wagering or is paid a prize from a fantasy contest.
- Sec. 8. Section 12-869 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

- (a) (1) At the commencement of operating online sports wagering or online casino gaming pursuant to section 12-852, as amended by this act, in any fiscal year, and on or before September thirtieth in each fiscal year thereafter that such wagering and gaming is conducted, the commissioner shall estimate and assess, after consultation with each holder of a master wagering license under section 12-852, as amended by this act, the reasonable and necessary costs that will be incurred by the department to regulate the operation of such wagering or gaming under sections 12-852, as amended by this act, and 12-855 to 12-865, inclusive, and section 2 of this act by each such licensee, (A) in the next fiscal year; and (B) in the case of the initial fiscal year of operating such wagering and gaming, in the current fiscal year.
- (2) The estimated costs under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not exceed the estimate of expenditure requirements transmitted by the commissioner pursuant to section 4-77. The assessment for any fiscal year shall be: (A) Reduced pro rata by the amount of any surplus from the assessment of the prior fiscal year, which shall be maintained in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, or (B) increased pro rata by the amount of any deficit from the assessment of the prior fiscal year.
- (3) The assessment under subdivision (1) of this subsection for the holder of a master wagering license issued under section 12-852, as amended by this act, shall be reduced by the amount of any licensing fees paid to the department for a license for an online gaming operator, an online gaming service provider and any corresponding key employee, live game employee and occupational employee affiliated with such holder of a master wagering license during the prior fiscal year.
- (b) Each holder of a master wagering license under section 12-852, as amended by this act, shall pay to the commissioner the amount assessed to such licensee pursuant to subsection (a) of this section not later than the date specified by the commissioner for payment, provided such date

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is not less than thirty days from the date of such assessment and no payment shall be due prior to the commencement of wagering and gaming operations by such licensee. The commissioner shall remit to the State Treasurer all funds received pursuant to this section.

- (c) (1) There is established a fund to be known as the "State Sports Wagering and Online Gaming Regulatory Fund". The fund shall contain any moneys required or permitted to be deposited in the fund, including licensing fees transferred by the department under the provisions of sections 12-855 and 12-857 to 12-859, inclusive, as amended by this act, and section 2 of this act and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. Any balance remaining in said fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in said fund for the fiscal year next succeeding. Moneys in the fund shall be expended by the Treasurer for the purposes of paying the costs incurred by the department to regulate online sports wagering and online casino gaming authorized under section 12-852, as amended by this act.
- (2) The Treasurer shall deposit all funds received pursuant to subsection (b) of this section in the State Sports Wagering and Online Gaming Regulatory Fund.
- (d) On or before September thirtieth, annually, the Comptroller shall calculate the actual reasonable and necessary costs incurred by the department to regulate such online sports wagering and online casino gaming authorized under section 12-852, as amended by this act, during the prior fiscal year. The Treasurer shall set aside amounts received pursuant to subsection (b) of this section in excess of such actual costs. Such excess amounts shall be considered a surplus for the purposes of subsection (a) of this section.
- (e) If the holder of a master wagering license under section 12-852, as amended by this act, is aggrieved by an assessment under the provisions of this section, the licensee may request a hearing before the commissioner not later than thirty days after such assessment. The

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577 commissioner shall hold such hearing in accordance with the provisions 578 of chapter 54 not later than thirty days after receiving such request, and 579 the decision of the commissioner may be appealed in accordance with 580 the provisions of section 4-183.

Sec. 9. Section 29-18c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection may appoint not more than four persons employed as investigators in the security unit of the Department of Consumer Protection, upon the nomination of the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, to act as special [policemen] <u>police officers</u> in said unit. Such appointees shall serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection. During such tenure, they shall have all the powers conferred on state [policemen] <u>police officers</u> while investigating or making arrests for any offense arising from the operation of any off-track betting system, <u>retail sports wagering</u> or the conduct of any lottery game. Such special [policemen] <u>police officers</u> shall be certified under the provisions of sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive.

Sec. 10. Section 53-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

Any person who uses any animal, <u>including a fish</u>, reptile or bird, for the purpose of soliciting any alms, collection, contribution, subscription, donation or payment of money, or uses any animal, <u>including a fish</u>, <u>reptile</u> or bird, as a prize or award in the operation of any game or device, or exhibits any wild animal in connection with any business for the purpose of attracting trade upon any street, highway or public park or at any fair, exhibition or place of amusement, recreation or entertainment, or owns, keeps or has in his custody any animal, <u>including a fish</u>, reptile or bird, for any such purpose, shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor, but no provision of this section shall be construed so as to apply (1) to the exhibition of any animal, <u>including a fish</u>, reptile or bird, (A) by any educational institution or in a zoological

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609 garden, or (B) in connection with any theatrical exhibition or circus, or 610 (2) to the use of any animal in a cow-chip raffle.

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- Sec. 11. Section 7-177 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2023*):
 - (a) All prizes given at any bazaar or raffle shall be merchandise, tangible personal property or a ticket, coupon or gift certificate, entitling the winner to merchandise, tangible personal property, services, transportation on a common carrier by land, water or air and to any tour facilities provided in connection therewith, or to participation in a lottery conducted under chapter 226. Such ticket, coupon or gift certificate shall not be refundable or transferable. No cash prizes or prizes consisting of alcoholic liquor shall be given, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section and section 7-177a, and no prize shall be redeemed or redeemable for cash, except tickets for a lottery conducted under chapter 226 or gift certificates awarded in accordance with subsection (e) of section 7-185a. No animal shall be given as a prize. For the purposes of this section, coins whose trading value exceeds their face value and coins not commonly in circulation shall not be deemed a cash prize.
 - (b) Any sponsoring organization authorized to conduct a bazaar pursuant to section 7-172 may award cash prizes not to exceed fifty dollars each in connection with the playing of a blower ball game. For purposes of this subsection "blower ball game" means a game of chance where the players wager on a color or number and the winner is determined by the drawing of a colored or numbered ball from a mechanical ball blower that mixes ping pong balls with blown air.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:			
Section 1	from passage	12-850	
Sec. 2	from passage	New section	
Sec. 3	from passage	12-852(c)	
Sec. 4	from passage	12-859(c) and (d)	

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Sec. 5	from passage	12-860
Sec. 6	from passage	12-862
Sec. 7	October 1, 2023	12-863
Sec. 8	from passage	12-869
Sec. 9	from passage	29-18c
Sec. 10	October 1, 2023	53-250
Sec. 11	October 1, 2023	7-177

Statement of Purpose:

To make revisions to statutes concerning gaming, including (1) establishing a live game employee license and revising certain licensing requirements, (2) requiring a person using a credit or debit card to fund an online gaming account to only use a card if the person is the sole account holder of such card, (3) prohibiting advertisements offering or advertising financial enticement to participate in online gaming or online or retail sports wagering, (4) allowing special officers to investigate offenses arising out of retail sports wagering, and (5) clarifying the prohibition on using animals as prizes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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