

HOUSE BILL 1169

C7

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By: **Delegates Luedtke, Barve, Boteler, Branch, Hixson, Howard, Ivey, A. Miller, Serafini, Stukes, F. Turner, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2012

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Table Games – Video Lottery Facilities**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that the State may authorize the holder of a video
4 lottery operation license to offer table games in the State; specifying the type of
5 table games that may be authorized in the State; authorizing the State Lottery
6 Commission to determine the suitability of certain table games under certain
7 circumstances; requiring certain legislation under certain circumstances; and
8 submitting this Act to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State.

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
10 MARYLAND, That:

11 (a) The State may authorize a holder of a video lottery operation license
12 under Article XIX of the Maryland Constitution to offer table games to the public in
13 the State.

14 (b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, table games authorized under
15 subsection (a) of this section may include:

16 (1) roulette, baccarat, blackjack, craps, big six wheel, minibaccarat,
17 poker, pai gow poker, and sic bo, or any variation and composites of such games; and

18 (2) gaming tournaments in which players compete against one another
19 in one or more of the games authorized under item (1) of this subsection.

20 (c) The State Lottery Commission may determine the suitability of:

21 (1) the use of any variations or composites of the table games under
22 subsection (b) of this section after an appropriate test or experimental period under
23 terms and conditions that the Commission may deem appropriate; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) any other game that is compatible with the public interest and
2 suitable for casino use after an appropriate test or experimental period deemed
3 appropriate by the Commission.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of Section
5 1 of this Act authorize a video lottery operation licensee to offer table games in the
6 State, subject to a referendum of the qualified voters of Maryland as provided in
7 Section 3 of this Act, and upon voter approval of this Act at the general election to be
8 held in November of 2012, legislation shall be required to provide for the operation,
9 regulation, and disposition of proceeds of table games at a licensed video lottery
10 facility in the State.

11 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That before this Act, which
12 authorizes additional forms or expansion of commercial gaming, becomes effective it
13 shall first be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State at the
14 general election to be held in November of 2012, in accordance with Article XIX, § 1(e)
15 of the Maryland Constitution. The State Board of Elections shall do those things
16 necessary and proper to provide for and hold the referendum required by this section.
17 If a majority of the votes cast on the question are "For the referred law" the provisions
18 of this Act shall become effective on the 30th day following the official canvass of votes
19 for the referendum, but if a majority of the votes cast on the question are "Against the
20 referred law" the provisions of this Act are of no effect and null and void.

21 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions
22 of Section 3 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum
23 required by Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2012.