

HOUSE BILL 1192

C7

4lr3103

By: **Delegates Feldmark, Griffith, Atterbeary, Bartlett, Buckel, Davis, Hill,
J. Long, Roberts, Stewart, Terrasa, Wu, and Ziegler**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Video Lottery Employee Licenses – Crimes of Moral Turpitude – Alterations**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which the State Lottery and Gaming
4 Control Commission is required to disqualify an applicant who committed a certain
5 crime involving moral turpitude from holding a video lottery employee license; and
6 generally relating to the licensure of video lottery employees.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – State Government

9 Section 9–1A–14(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – State Government

14 Section 9–1A–14(c)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – State Government**

20 9–1A–14.

21 (a) Unless an individual holds a valid video lottery employee license or temporary
22 video lottery employee license issued by the Commission, the individual may not be
23 employed by a video lottery operation licensee as a video lottery employee.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) (1) The Commission shall deny a video lottery employee license to an
2 applicant who is disqualified due to:

3 (i) the applicant's failure to prove the applicant's good character,
4 honesty, and integrity;

5 (ii) the applicant's lack of expertise or training to be a video lottery
6 employee;

7 (iii) except as provided in [paragraph (2)] **PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3)**
8 of this subsection, the applicant's conviction, active parole, or probation for any crime
9 involving moral turpitude or gambling under the laws of the United States or any state
10 within the prior 7 years;

11 (iv) except as provided in [paragraph (2)] **PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3)**
12 of this subsection, the applicant's current prosecution for any crime involving moral
13 turpitude or gambling under the laws of the United States or any state, but, at the request
14 of the applicant, the Commission may defer a decision on the application during the
15 pendency of the charge;

16 (v) pursuit by the applicant of economic gain in an occupational
17 manner or context that is in violation of the laws of the State, if the pursuit creates a
18 reasonable belief that participation of the applicant in video lottery operations would be
19 inimical to the policies of this subtitle;

20 (vi) identification of the applicant as a career offender or a member
21 of a career offender cartel or an associate of a career offender or career offender cartel in a
22 manner that creates a reasonable belief that the association is of a nature as to be inimical
23 to the policies of this subtitle;

24 (vii) willful defiance by the applicant or a person that is required to
25 be qualified under this subtitle as a condition of a license of a legislative investigatory body
26 or other official investigatory body of the United States or a jurisdiction within the United
27 States when the body is engaged in the investigation of crimes relating to gambling, official
28 corruption, or organized crime activity; and

29 (viii) any other reason established in the regulations of the
30 Commission as a reason for denying a license.

31 (2) (i) In this paragraph, "problem-solving court" means a
32 problem-solving court under the Office of Problem-Solving Courts, or a comparable
33 program from another state court system, that provides a collaborative, therapeutic,
34 nonadversarial approach to judicial supervision of eligible offenders, including a drug court,
35 DUI court, veterans' court, mental health court, or reentry court.

36 (ii) An applicant is not disqualified from licensure under paragraph
37 (1)(iii) or (iv) of this subsection if the conviction, active parole, probation, or prosecution

1 involves a nonviolent misdemeanor offense, other than a crime involving gambling, for
2 which the applicant participated in and completed a problem-solving court program.

3 **(3) AN APPLICANT IS NOT DISQUALIFIED FROM LICENSURE UNDER**
4 **PARAGRAPH (1)(III) OR (IV) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF:**

5 **(I) THE CONVICTION, ACTIVE PAROLE, PROBATION, OR**
6 **PROSECUTION INVOLVES A NONVIOLENT MISDEMEANOR OFFENSE, OTHER THAN A**
7 **CRIME INVOLVING GAMBLING;**

8 **(II) THE APPLICANT WILL NOT BE EMPLOYED BY THE VIDEO**
9 **LOTTERY OPERATION LICENSEE IN THE OPERATION OF GAMING OR SECURITY; AND**

10 **(III) THE VIDEO LOTTERY OPERATION LICENSEE REQUESTS**
11 **THAT THE COMMISSION ISSUE THE LICENSE NOTWITHSTANDING THE CONVICTION,**
12 **ACTIVE PAROLE, PROBATION, OR PROSECUTION.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
14 1, 2024.