THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL No. 1164 Session of 1995

INTRODUCED BY SALVATORE, STEWART, RHOADES, MELLOW, FUMO, BODACK, BELAN, LAVALLE, TARTAGLIONE, STOUT, JONES, KASUNIC AND PORTERFIELD, JUNE 29, 1995

REFERRED TO FINANCE, JUNE 29, 1995

AN ACT

- 1 Amending the act of August 26, 1971 (P.L.351, No.91), entitled
- 2 "An act providing for a State Lottery and administration
- 3 thereof; authorizing the creation of a State Lottery
- 4 Commission; prescribing its powers and duties; disposition of
- 5 funds; violations and penalties therefor; exemption of prizes
- from State and local taxation and making an appropriation,"
- 7 creating the State Lottery Commission; and providing for
- 8 video gaming.
- 9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 10 hereby enacts as follows:
- 11 Section 1. Section 3 of the act of August 26, 1971 (P.L.351,
- 12 No.91), known as the State Lottery Law, amended December 15,
- 13 1982 (P.L.1288, No.291), is amended to read:
- 14 [Section 3. Definitions.--As used in this act:
- 15 (2) "Division" shall mean the Division of the State Lottery
- 16 created by this act.
- 17 (3) "Lottery" or "State lottery" shall mean the lottery
- 18 established and operated pursuant to this act.
- 19 (4) "Director" shall mean the Director of the Division of
- 20 the State Lottery.

- 1 (5) "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of Revenue.]
- 2 <u>Section 3. Definitions.--As used in this act:</u>
- 3 "Chairman" shall mean the Chairman of the State Lottery
- 4 Commission.
- 5 "Commission" shall mean the State Lottery Commission
- 6 established under section 4.1 of this act.
- 7 <u>"Department" shall mean the Department of Revenue of the</u>
- 8 Commonwealth.
- 9 <u>"Director" shall mean the executive director of the State</u>
- 10 Lottery Commission.
- 11 "Distributor" shall mean an individual, partnership,
- 12 association or corporation licensed by the State Lottery
- 13 Commission to buy, sell, service or distribute video gaming
- 14 machines to machine vendors. The term excludes machine vendors
- 15 <u>and manufacturers</u>.
- 16 "Licensed establishment" shall mean a restaurant, bar,
- 17 tavern, hotel or club which has a valid liquor or malt or brewed
- 18 beverage license under the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90,
- 19 No.21), known as the "Liquor Code," and is located within a
- 20 participating political subdivision. The term shall include a
- 21 racetrack as defined in the act of December 17, 1981 (P.L.435,
- 22 No.135), known as the "Race Horse Industry Reform Act."
- 23 "Machine vendor" shall mean an individual, partnership,
- 24 <u>association or corporation which is licensed by the State</u>
- 25 <u>Lottery Commission which owns, services and maintains video</u>
- 26 gaming machines for placement and public use in licensed
- 27 establishments.
- 28 <u>"Manufacturer" shall mean an individual, partnership,</u>
- 29 <u>association or corporation licensed by the State Lottery</u>
- 30 Commission which manufactures or assembles video gaming machines

- 1 for sale or use in this Commonwealth.
- 2 "Net machine income" shall mean the money put into a video
- 3 gaming machine minus credits paid out in cash.
- 4 "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of Revenue of the
- 5 Commonwealth.
- 6 "Video gaming machine" shall mean a device or machine which
- 7 upon insertion of a coin or currency will play or simulate the
- 8 play of a video game authorized by the State Lottery Commission,
- 9 <u>including</u>, but not limited to, poker, bingo, keno and blackjack,
- 10 and which utilizes a video display and microprocessors and in
- 11 which, by the skill of the player or by chance, the player may
- 12 receive free games or credits which may be redeemed for cash.
- 13 With the exception of tickets indicating credits won, which are
- 14 redeemable for cash, no machine shall directly dispense any
- 15 coins, cash, tokens or anything else of value. All machines must
- 16 be linked to the State Lottery Commission's central
- 17 communications system.
- 18 Section 2. The act is amended by adding sections to read:
- 19 Section 4.1. State Lottery Commission.--(a) An independent
- 20 <u>commission to be known as the State Lottery Commission is hereby</u>
- 21 created.
- 22 (b) All personnel, allocations, appropriations, equipment,
- 23 supplies, records, contracts, rights and obligations which are
- 24 utilized or arise in connection with the functions vested in the
- 25 secretary or the department by this act shall be transferred to
- 26 the commission.
- 27 (c) The commission shall have the powers and duties in
- 28 general vested in the several administrative departments and
- 29 <u>several independent administrative and departmental</u>
- 30 administrative boards and commissions as set forth in the act of

- 1 April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as "The Administrative
- 2 <u>Code of 1929."</u>
- 3 <u>Section 4.2. Members.--The commission shall consist of nine</u>
- 4 members. The Secretary of Revenue and the Secretary of Aging
- 5 shall serve as members, with the Secretary of Revenue serving as
- 6 chairman. The Governor shall appoint two members. The remaining
- 7 five members shall consist of: one appointed by the President
- 8 pro tempore of the Senate, one appointed by the Minority Leader
- 9 of the Senate, one appointed by the Speaker of the House of
- 10 Representatives, one appointed by the Minority Leader of the
- 11 House of Representatives and one appointed by the Attorney
- 12 General.
- 13 <u>Section 4.3. Terms of Office.--Members shall serve terms of</u>
- 14 three years, except the Governor's original appointments, one of
- 15 whom shall serve for four years and one of whom shall serve for
- 16 two years. The Secretary of Revenue and the Secretary of Aging
- 17 shall serve the commission without interruption. No member may
- 18 be appointed to more than two consecutive terms.
- 19 Section 4.4. Qualifications.--(1) Members must be citizens
- 20 of the United States and residents of this Commonwealth.
- 21 (2) No member shall be a member of the General Assembly.
- 22 (3) No member shall have a pecuniary interest in any
- 23 business or organization doing business with any person or
- 24 <u>organization provided for under this act.</u>
- 25 (4) One of the Governor's appointees shall be a certified
- 26 <u>public accountant who has a minimum of ten years' experience and</u>
- 27 who is licensed to practice accountancy in this Commonwealth.
- 28 (5) The Governor's other appointee shall have comprehensive
- 29 knowledge of the principles and practice of corporate finance
- 30 and have a minimum of ten years' experience in that field.

- 1 (6) The Attorney General's appointee shall have a minimum of
- 2 ten years' experience in the field of law enforcement.
- 3 <u>Section 4.5.</u> Compensation and Expenses. -- The members of the
- 4 commission shall be compensated at a rate set by the executive
- 5 board and shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary
- 6 expenses while performing the business of the commission.
- 7 <u>Section 4.6. Meetings and Quorum.--The commission shall meet</u>
- 8 at least once a month and such additional meetings as the
- 9 <u>chairman deems desirable</u>. Special meetings may be called by the
- 10 chairman upon the written request of the director or any four
- 11 members of the commission. Five members shall constitute a
- 12 quorum. Members may not vote by proxy or appoint a designee to
- 13 <u>vote in their absence.</u>
- 14 Section 5.1. Powers and Duties of Commission.--(a) The
- 15 <u>commission shall have the power and it shall be its duty to</u>
- 16 operate and administer the lottery and video gaming and to
- 17 promulgate rules and regulations governing the establishment and
- 18 operation thereof, including, but not limited to:
- 19 (1) The type of lottery, including video gaming, to be
- 20 <u>conducted</u>.
- 21 (2) The price or prices of tickets or shares in the lottery.
- 22 (3) The numbers and sizes of the prizes on the winning
- 23 tickets or shares.
- 24 (4) The manner of selecting the winning tickets or shares.
- 25 (5) The manner of payment of prizes to the holders of
- 26 winning tickets or shares.
- 27 (6) The frequency of drawings or selections of winning
- 28 <u>tickets or shares, without limitation.</u>
- 29 (7) Without limit as to number, the type or types of
- 30 <u>locations at which tickets or shares may be sold.</u>

- 1 (8) The method used in selling tickets or shares.
- 2 (9) The licensing of agents to sell tickets or shares:
- 3 Provided, That no person under the age of twenty-one years shall
- 4 be licensed as an agent.
- 5 (10) The manner and amount of compensation, if any, to be
- 6 paid licensed sales agents necessary to provide for the adequate
- 7 availability of tickets or shares to prospective buyers and for
- 8 the convenience of the public.
- 9 (11) The apportionment of total revenues accruing from the
- 10 <u>sale of lottery tickets or shares and from all other sources</u>
- 11 among:
- 12 (i) the payment of prizes to the holders of winning tickets
- 13 <u>or shares;</u>
- 14 (ii) the payment of costs incurred in the operation and
- 15 administration of the lottery, including the expenses of the
- 16 division and the costs resulting from any contract or contracts
- 17 entered into for promotional, advertising or operational
- 18 services or for the purchase or lease of lottery equipment and
- 19 materials;
- 20 (iii) the repayment of the moneys appropriated to the State
- 21 Lottery Fund pursuant to section 16 of this act; and
- 22 (iv) property tax relief and free or reduced fare transit
- 23 service for the elderly as provided in section 12 of this act:
- 24 Provided, however, That no less than thirty per cent of the
- 25 total revenues accruing from the sale of lottery tickets or
- 26 <u>shares be dedicated to property tax relief and free or reduced</u>
- 27 fare transit for the elderly.
- 28 (12) The production and merchandising of promotional items
- 29 <u>for the lottery.</u>
- 30 (13) Such other matter necessary or desirable for the

- 1 efficient and economical operation in administration of the
- 2 lottery and for the convenience of the purchasers of tickets or
- 3 shares and the holders of winning tickets or shares.
- 4 (14) Reporting monthly to the Governor and the General
- 5 Assembly the total lottery revenues, prize disbursements and
- 6 other expenses for the preceding month and making an annual
- 7 report which shall include a full and complete statement of the
- 8 lottery revenues, video gaming revenues, prize disbursements and
- 9 other expenses to the Governor and the General Assembly and
- 10 including such recommendations for changes this act and the
- 11 <u>commission deem necessary or desirable.</u>
- 12 (15) Performing the powers and duties currently vested in
- 13 the secretary and the department.
- 14 (b) Any person who is denied a license shall have the right
- 15 to a hearing before the commission. The hearing shall be
- 16 <u>conducted in accordance with the provisions of 2 Pa.C.S.</u>
- 17 <u>(relating to administrative law and procedure)</u>. An aggrieved
- 18 party shall have the right to a de novo appeal from the decision
- 19 on license denial to the court of common pleas in the judicial
- 20 <u>district having jurisdiction over the applicant and/or the</u>
- 21 <u>licensed premises.</u>
- 22 (c) The commission shall investigate licensees for
- 23 violations of this act and shall hold hearings to consider these
- 24 <u>matters</u>. Hearings and appeals shall be conducted in the same
- 25 manner as set forth in subsection (b) of this act. The
- 26 commission shall have the authority to suspend or revoke a
- 27 license if it finds that a violation of this act has occurred.
- 28 No license shall be suspended or revoked until the appeal has
- 29 been decided by the commission or during an appeal to the court
- 30 of common pleas. The fine for a violation of provisions of this

- 1 act or of regulations adopted under this act shall not exceed
- 2 ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the first offense and twenty
- 3 thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the second offense. A third
- 4 offense shall mandate revocation. An appeal to court on a third
- 5 <u>violation shall not act as an automatic stay.</u>
- 6 <u>Section 5.2. Director.--The commission may appoint an</u>
- 7 <u>executive director to hold office at the pleasure of the</u>
- 8 commission. The director shall have the powers and duties as the
- 9 <u>commission shall prescribe and shall receive compensation as the</u>
- 10 commission determines. The director shall have the authority to
- 11 employ personnel necessary to carry out the duties of the
- 12 office.
- 13 Section 3. Section 6 of the act is repealed.
- 14 Section 4. The act is amended by adding sections to read:
- 15 <u>Section 15.1. Video Gaming.--The commission shall, subject</u>
- 16 to local referendum, provide for video gaming at licensed
- 17 establishments.
- 18 Section 15.2. Local Referendum. -- In any municipality, an
- 19 <u>election may be held on the date of a primary, municipal or</u>
- 20 general election to determine the will of the electors with
- 21 respect to the issuance of licenses within the limits of such
- 22 municipality or county under the provisions of this section.
- 23 Whenever electors equal to at least twenty-five per cent of the
- 24 highest vote cast for any office in the municipality or county
- 25 at the preceding general election file a petition with the
- 26 county board of elections, or the governing board of the
- 27 municipality or county adopts by a majority vote a resolution to
- 28 place such a question on the ballot and a copy of the resolution
- 29 <u>is filed with the county board of elections for a referendum on</u>
- 30 the question of issuing licenses, the county board shall cause a

- 1 guestion to be placed on the ballot and submitted at the
- 2 <u>following primary, municipal or general election. The question</u>
- 3 shall be in the following form:
- 4 <u>Do you favor the issuance of licenses to permit the play</u>
- of video gaming machines in (name of municipality or
- 6 county)?
- 7 (1) The local referendum shall be held in accordance with
- 8 the provisions of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320),
- 9 <u>known as the "Pennsylvania Election Code."</u>
- 10 (2) If a majority of electors voting on the question vote
- 11 "yes," licenses shall be issued by the commission in such
- 12 <u>municipality or county; but if a majority of the electors voting</u>
- 13 on the question vote "no," the commission shall have no power to
- 14 issue or renew upon expiration any licenses in that municipality
- 15 or county unless and until at a later election a majority votes
- 16 <u>"yes" on such a question.</u>
- 17 (3) The referendum procedures shall also be available to
- 18 withdraw the approval of the issuance of the licenses within the
- 19 municipality or county which was granted through a prior
- 20 <u>referendum</u>.
- 21 (4) A referendum for approval under this section may not be
- 22 held more than twice within six years from the effective date of
- 23 this act, and thereafter no more than once every four years. A
- 24 referendum for withdrawal under this act may not be held in the
- 25 first four years from approval, and thereafter no more than once
- 26 <u>every four years.</u>
- 27 Section 15.3. Licensing.--(a) The director shall conduct a
- 28 background investigation of all applicants for a manufacturer's,
- 29 <u>distributor's or machine vendor's license as to their personal</u>
- 30 and business character, honesty and integrity. The investigation

- 1 may utilize the same procedures that are used for similar checks
- 2 conducted for the State lottery. The investigation may include,
- 3 <u>but not be limited to, the following:</u>
- 4 (1) An examination of any criminal or civil record.
- 5 (2) An examination of any personal, financial or business
- 6 records, including tax returns, bank accounts, business
- 7 accounts, mortgages and contracts to which the license applicant
- 8 <u>is a party or has an interest.</u>
- 9 (3) An examination of any personal or business relationships
- 10 which may include a partial ownership or voting interest in a
- 11 partnership, association or corporation which affects the
- 12 <u>fitness of the applicant for licensure.</u>
- 13 (b) An applicant, to become a licensee, must produce such
- 14 information, documentation and assurances as required by the
- 15 <u>commission or the director to include, but not be limited to,</u>
- 16 the following:
- 17 (1) Each license applicant must consent in writing and
- 18 provide for the examination of all financial and business
- 19 accounts, bank accounts, tax returns and related records in his
- 20 possession or under his control which establish by clear and
- 21 convincing evidence the financial stability, integrity and
- 22 responsibility of the license applicant and must authorize all
- 23 third parties in possession or control of any such accounts or
- 24 records to allow for their examination as determined necessary
- 25 by the commission or the director in conducting background
- 26 investigations.
- 27 (2) Each license applicant must disclose on the application
- 28 form any non-summary criminal convictions covering the ten-year
- 29 period immediately preceding the filing of the application. The
- 30 license applicant must also include on the application form any

- 1 convictions of the gambling laws or statutes of this
- 2 Commonwealth or any other jurisdiction to which he was subject.
- 3 (3) If the license applicant has conducted a gaming
- 4 operation in a jurisdiction which permits such activity, the
- 5 <u>license applicant must produce letters of reference from the</u>
- 6 gaming or casino enforcement or control agency which specify the
- 7 <u>experiences of the agency with the license applicant, the</u>
- 8 <u>license applicant's associates and the license applicant's</u>
- 9 gaming operations. If the license applicant is unable to obtain
- 10 these letters within sixty days of the request, the license
- 11 applicant may submit a copy of the letter requesting the
- 12 <u>information</u>, together with a statement under oath, that during
- 13 the period such activities were conducted, the license applicant
- 14 was in good standing with the appropriate gambling or casino
- 15 <u>enforcement or control agency.</u>
- 16 (4) Each license applicant must provide such information,
- 17 <u>documentation and assurances as required by the commission or</u>
- 18 director to establish by clear and convincing evidence the
- 19 license applicant's good character, honesty and integrity.
- 20 <u>Information under this clause may relate to family, habits,</u>
- 21 character, reputation, business affairs, financial affairs,
- 22 business associates, professional associates and personal
- 23 associates covering the ten-year period immediately preceding
- 24 the filing of the application.
- 25 <u>(c) Each license applicant must accept any risk of adverse</u>
- 26 <u>public notice</u>, <u>embarrassment</u>, <u>criticism</u>, <u>damages or financial</u>
- 27 loss which may result from any disclosure or publication by a
- 28 third party of any material or information requested by the
- 29 commission or the director pursuant to action on an application.
- 30 The license applicant expressly waives any claim against the

- 1 commission, the director or the Commonwealth and its employes
- 2 from damages as a result thereof.
- 3 (d) Any person who is denied a license shall have the right
- 4 to a hearing before the commission as set forth in subsection
- 5 (b) of section 5.1 of this act.
- 6 (e) A sole proprietor vendor shall:
- 7 (1) Be a resident of this Commonwealth for at least two
- 8 years immediately prior to application.
- 9 (2) Be of good moral character and reputation in the
- 10 community.
- 11 (3) Be at least eighteen years of age.
- 12 (4) Be current in the payment of all taxes, interest and
- 13 penalties owed to the Commonwealth and the political
- 14 subdivisions thereof, excluding items under formal dispute or
- 15 <u>appeal under applicable statutes.</u>
- 16 (5) Demonstrate sufficient financial resources to support
- 17 the activities required to place and service video gaming
- 18 machines.
- 19 (f) (1) Partnership vendors shall be current in the payment
- 20 of all taxes, interest and penalties owed to the Commonwealth
- 21 and the political subdivisions thereof, excluding items under
- 22 formal dispute or appeal under applicable statutes.
- 23 (2) Partnership vendors shall demonstrate sufficient
- 24 financial resources to support the activities required to place
- 25 <u>and service video gaming machines.</u>
- 26 (3) Each partner of a partnership vendor shall:
- 27 (i) be of good moral character and reputation in the
- 28 <u>community; and</u>
- 29 <u>(ii) be at least eighteen years of age.</u>
- 30 (4) A majority of the partnership ownership interest shall

- 1 be held by residents domiciled in this Commonwealth at least two
- 2 years immediately prior to application. The residency and
- 3 <u>domicile requirements shall be maintained during the entire</u>
- 4 period of licensure.
- 5 (q) (1) Association or corporation vendors shall be current
- 6 in the payment of all taxes, interest and penalties owed to the
- 7 Commonwealth and the political subdivisions thereof, excluding
- 8 <u>items under formal dispute or appeal under applicable statutes.</u>
- 9 (2) Association or corporation vendors shall demonstrate
- 10 <u>sufficient financial resources to support the activities</u>
- 11 required to place and service video gaming machines.
- 12 (3) All shareholders of the corporation or association
- 13 <u>shall:</u>
- 14 (i) be of good moral character and reputation in the
- 15 community; and
- 16 (ii) be at least eighteen years of age.
- 17 (4) Shareholders owning a majority of the stock in the
- 18 corporation shall be residents domiciled in this Commonwealth at
- 19 least two years immediately prior to application. The residency
- 20 and domicile requirements shall be maintained during the entire
- 21 period of licensure.
- 22 (h) The annual fee for a machine vendor's license shall be
- 23 <u>twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000)</u>. The annual fee includes
- 24 licenses for fifty video gaming machines. A license fee of five
- 25 hundred dollars (\$500) shall be assessed for each video gaming
- 26 <u>machine over the initial fifty licenses included within the</u>
- 27 annual machine vendor's license fee. No additional license fees
- 28 shall be assessed if the licensed video gaming machine is
- 29 relocated during the license year to an approved licensed
- 30 establishment within the same municipality.

- 1 (i) A sole proprietor distributor shall:
- 2 (1) Be of good moral character and reputation in the
- 3 community.
- 4 (2) Be at least eighteen years of age.
- 5 (3) Be current in the payment of all taxes, interest and
- 6 penalties owed to the Commonwealth and the political
- 7 <u>subdivisions thereof</u>, <u>excluding items under formal dispute or</u>
- 8 <u>appeal under applicable statutes.</u>
- 9 (4) Demonstrate sufficient financial resources to support
- 10 the activities required to sell and service video gaming
- 11 <u>machines</u>.
- 12 (5) Maintain and operate a coin machine distributor's
- 13 office, sales and service staff within this Commonwealth.
- (j) (1) Partnership distributors shall be current in the
- 15 payment of all taxes, interest and penalties owed to the
- 16 Commonwealth and the political subdivisions thereof, excluding
- 17 items under formal dispute or appeal under applicable statutes.
- 18 (2) Partnership distributors shall demonstrate sufficient
- 19 financial resources to support the activities required to sell
- 20 <u>and service video gaming machines.</u>
- 21 (3) Each partner of a partnership distributor shall:
- 22 (i) be of good moral character and reputation in the
- 23 community; and
- 24 (ii) be at least eighteen years of age.
- 25 (4) Partnership distributors must maintain and operate a
- 26 coin machine distributor's office, sales and service staff
- 27 within this Commonwealth.
- 28 (k) (1) Association or corporation distributors shall be
- 29 current in the payment of all taxes, interest and penalties owed
- 30 to the Commonwealth and the political subdivisions thereof,

- 1 <u>excluding items under formal dispute or appeal under applicable</u>
- 2 statutes.
- 3 (2) Association or corporation distributors shall
- 4 demonstrate sufficient financial resources to support the
- 5 <u>activities required to sell and service video gaming machines.</u>
- 6 (3) All shareholders of the corporation or association
- 7 shall:
- 8 (i) be of good moral character and reputation in the
- 9 <u>community; and</u>
- 10 (ii) be at least eighteen years of age.
- 11 (4) A corporate distributor must maintain and operate a coin
- 12 machine distributor's office, sales and service staff within
- 13 <u>this Commonwealth.</u>
- 14 (1) The annual fee for a distributor's license shall be
- 15 <u>twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000)</u>.
- 16 (m) A sole proprietor manufacturer shall:
- 17 (1) Be of good moral character and reputation in the
- 18 community.
- 19 (2) Be at least eighteen years of age.
- 20 (3) Be current in the payment of all taxes, interest and
- 21 <u>penalties owed to the Commonwealth and the political</u>
- 22 subdivisions thereof, excluding items under formal dispute or
- 23 appeal under applicable statutes.
- 24 (4) Demonstrate sufficient financial resources to support
- 25 the activities required to manufacture and sell video gaming
- 26 machines through a licensed distributor.
- 27 (n) (1) All partners of a partnership manufacturer shall be
- 28 at least eighteen years of age.
- 29 (2) All partners of a partnership manufacturer shall be of
- 30 good moral character and reputation in the community.

- 1 (3) Partnership manufacturers shall be current in the
- 2 payment of all taxes, interest and penalties owed to the
- 3 Commonwealth and the political subdivisions thereof, excluding
- 4 <u>items under formal dispute or appeal under applicable statutes.</u>
- 5 (4) Partnership manufacturers shall demonstrate sufficient
- 6 <u>financial resources to support the activities required to</u>
- 7 manufacture and sell video gaming machines through a licensed
- 8 distributor.
- 9 (o) (1) Association or corporate manufacturers shall be
- 10 current in the payment of all taxes, interest and penalties owed
- 11 to the Commonwealth and the political subdivisions thereof,
- 12 <u>excluding items under formal dispute or appeal under applicable</u>
- 13 statutes.
- 14 (2) Association or corporate manufacturers shall demonstrate
- 15 <u>sufficient financial resources to support the activities</u>
- 16 required to manufacture and sell video gaming machines through a
- 17 licensed distributor.
- 18 (3) All shareholders of the corporation or association
- 19 shall:
- 20 (i) be of good moral character and reputation in the
- 21 community; and
- 22 (ii) be at least eighteen years of age.
- 23 (p) The annual fee for a manufacturer's license shall be
- 24 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).
- 25 (q) (1) The commission shall issue a license to any
- 26 <u>licensed establishment upon a showing that its liquor or retail</u>
- 27 dispenser's license is valid and is in good standing with the
- 28 Liquor Control Board. The annual fee for a licensed
- 29 establishment shall be five hundred dollars (\$500) per video
- 30 gaming machine.

- 1 (2) The licensed establishment shall not pay additional
- 2 <u>licensing fees if the video gaming machines are replaced or</u>
- 3 changed during the license year: Provided, That the total number
- 4 of video gaming machines does not exceed the number of licenses
- 5 held by the establishment.
- 6 Section 15.4. Prohibitions. -- (a) No approved licensed
- 7 <u>establishment under this act may operate more than one video</u>
- 8 gaming machine unless every approved licensed establishment in
- 9 this Commonwealth has at least one video gaming machine. No
- 10 licensed establishment shall have more than four video gaming
- 11 <u>machines</u>.
- 12 (b) No applicant may hold more than one type of license as
- 13 provided in section 15.3 of this act. Each licensee is
- 14 responsible for payment of its license fee. Payment of the fee
- 15 by a person, partnership or corporation other than the licensee
- 16 is prohibited. A machine vendor license does permit the vendor
- 17 to sell used video gaming machines that the vendor purchased,
- 18 licensed and operated to other licensed vendors or distributors.
- 19 (c) No licensee shall be permitted to advertise gambling or
- 20 use the word "gambling" in any promotional way, including flyers
- 21 or other forms of advertisement.
- 22 (d) No video gaming machines may be placed in a licensed
- 23 establishment unless the machine vendor and the licensed
- 24 <u>establishment have entered into a mutually agreed-upon written</u>
- 25 machine placement agreement for a minimum term of one year. A
- 26 <u>video gaming machine owner may not offer or give any type of</u>
- 27 inducements or incentives to a licensed establishment to secure,
- 28 <u>maintain or renew a video gaming machine placement agreement.</u>
- 29 (e) No person, partnership, association or corporation may
- 30 sell, distribute, service, own, operate or place on location a

- 1 video gaming machine unless it is licensed pursuant to this act
- 2 and is in compliance with all requirements of this act.
- 3 (f) (1) No person under twenty-one years of age may use or
- 4 play a video gaming machine. A minor using or playing or
- 5 attempting to use or play a video gaming machine commits a
- 6 <u>summary offense</u>.
- 7 (2) A licensed establishment in which a person under twenty-
- 8 one years of age plays or uses a video gaming machine, whether
- 9 or not that licensed establishment is actually aware of the
- 10 minor's age, commits a summary offense and shall, upon
- 11 conviction, pay a fine of not more than five thousand dollars
- 12 <u>(\$5,000)</u>.
- 13 (3) The establishment of any of the following facts by a
- 14 person allowing a minor to operate the video gaming machines
- 15 <u>constitutes a defense to prosecution under this subsection:</u>
- 16 (i) the minor falsely represented in writing that the minor
- 17 was twenty-one years of age or older; or
- 18 (ii) the appearance of the minor was such that an ordinary
- 19 person of prudent judgment would believe the minor to be twenty-
- 20 one years of age or older.
- 21 <u>Section 15.5. Machine Characteristics.--(a) The commission</u>
- 22 shall establish and procure a central communications system
- 23 capable of monitoring and communicating with each licensed video
- 24 gaming machine.
- 25 (b) The commission shall approve a prototype video gaming
- 26 <u>machine which includes hardware and software specifications.</u>
- 27 These specifications shall include, but not be limited to, the
- 28 <u>following:</u>
- 29 (1) All machines shall be linked with the lottery central
- 30 communications system to provide complete accounting and

- 1 auditing information to eliminate any possibility of fraud.
- 2 (2) Unremovable identification plates shall appear on the
- 3 exterior of the machine and shall contain the name of the
- 4 manufacturer and the serial number and model number of the
- 5 <u>machine</u>.
- 6 (3) The rules of play shall be displayed on the machine face
- 7 or screen as promulgated by the commission.
- 8 (4) A video gaming machine may not directly dispense coins,
- 9 cash, tokens or any other article of exchange or value except
- 10 tickets. Such tickets shall be dispensed by pressing the ticket
- 11 <u>dispensing button on the machine at the end of a turn or play.</u>
- 12 The ticket shall indicate the total amount of credits and the
- 13 cash award, and the player shall turn in this ticket to the
- 14 appropriate person at the licensed establishment to receive the
- 15 cash award. The cost of the credit shall be twenty-five cents
- 16 (25c), and the number of credits played per game shall not
- 17 exceed eight. No cash award for any individual game shall exceed
- 18 five hundred dollars (\$500). All video gaming machines shall be
- 19 designed and manufactured with total accountability, including
- 20 gross proceeds, net profits, winning percentages and any other
- 21 information the commission requires.
- 22 (5) Each machine shall have a minimum winning percentage of
- 23 eighty per cent.
- 24 (c) The commission shall have primary enforcement
- 25 responsibility for any illegal activities concerning video
- 26 gaming machines. The commission may engage an enforcement agent
- 27 and personnel necessary to ensure the integrity of video gaming.
- 28 The Pennsylvania State Police and local police shall also have
- 29 the authority to enforce the provisions of this act.
- 30 Section 15.6. Distribution of Funds. -- (a) There is hereby

- 1 <u>established a separate account in the State Treasury to be known</u>
- 2 as the Video Gaming Account. All fees and fines and the
- 3 <u>Commonwealth portion of net machine income generated from video</u>
- 4 gaming shall be deposited therein.
- 5 (b) The net machine income from each video gaming machine
- 6 shall be distributed as follows:
- 7 (1) Thirty-three per cent to the licensed establishment.
- 8 (2) Thirty-three per cent to the licensed vendor.
- 9 (3) Thirty-four per cent to the Commonwealth.
- 10 (c) Twenty-five per cent of the Commonwealth's share of net
- 11 <u>machine income shall be used to fund basic education. This</u>
- 12 amount shall not exceed one hundred million dollars
- 13 (\$100,000,000) annually. Twenty-five per cent of the
- 14 Commonwealth's share of net machine income shall fund higher
- 15 <u>education through the State System of Higher Education. This</u>
- 16 <u>amount shall not exceed one hundred million dollars</u>
- 17 (\$100,000,000) annually. Fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000)
- 18 shall be set aside annually to expand eligibility in the
- 19 Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly (PACE)
- 20 Program established under the act of August 14, 1991 (P.L.342,
- 21 No.36), known as the "Lottery Fund Preservation Act." Each
- 22 municipality that has approved video gaming shall receive one
- 23 thousand dollars (\$1,000) per licensed video gaming machine
- 24 within that municipality annually. All remaining funds shall go
- 25 to the State Lottery Fund.
- 26 (d) The costs of the commission for the establishment,
- 27 enforcement and operation of video gaming may not exceed seven
- 28 and one-half per cent of the video gaming's total annual
- 29 revenue, except in the first two years after the effective date
- 30 of this act, when the costs may not exceed fifteen per cent of

- 1 the total revenues.
- 2 Section 5. Video gaming machines and coin-operated amusement
- 3 machines shall be exempt from taxes levied under the act of
- 4 August 5, 1932 (Sp.Sess., P.L.45, No.45), referred to as the
- 5 Sterling Act, the act of December 31, 1965 (P.L.1257, No.511),
- 6 known as The Local Tax Enabling Act, or the act of April 13,
- 7 1972 (P.L.184, No.62), known as the Home Rule Charter and
- 8 Optional Plans Law, or under any other statute which confers
- 9 taxing authority to any political subdivision. The machines are
- 10 also exempt from all local licensing fees.
- 11 Section 6. Video gaming machines and their use are exempt
- 12 from the provisions of 18 Pa.C.S. § 5513 (relating to gambling
- 13 devices, gambling, etc.).
- 14 Section 7. The General Assembly declares that the
- 15 Commonwealth is exempt from section 2 of the Gambling Devices
- 16 Transportation Act (64 Stat. 1134, 15 U.S.C. § 1172). Shipments
- 17 of approved video gaming machines into this Commonwealth in
- 18 compliance with sections 3 and 4 of the Gambling Devices
- 19 Transportation Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 1173 and 1174) shall be deemed
- 20 legal shipments into this Commonwealth.
- 21 Section 8. This act shall take effect in 30 days.